

SUNDAY EXPRESS

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William hands olive branch to Harry



TOGETHER FOR 'GRANNY'

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QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 – 2022



TOGETHER AGAIN: William and Kate are joined by Harry and Meghan as they view the tributes left at Windsor Castle yesterday

William extends hand of brotherly friendship

IT WAS the moment we have all been longing for – the feuding Windsor brothers finally coming together, mourning the loss of their beloved “Granny”.

In an extraordinary show of unity, Prince William and Prince Harry stunned onlookers as they stepped out together to meet well-wishers gathered at the gates of Windsor Castle.

They were accompanied by their wives, the Duchess of Cornwall and Cambridge and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex.

The now united family looked at the floral tributes left for the Queen following her death on Thursday before chatting with the gathered crowd.

It proved to be a powerful symbol of unity at a time of great loss both for the Royal Family and the nation.

According to a source, Prince William invited the Sussexes to take part in the

By **Eugene Henderson** and **Mike Parker**

impromptu walkabout. That act is being seen as “an olive branch” offered by the older brother.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex joined the new Prince and Princess of Wales as they thanked the crowds who had queued all day to pay their respects to their beloved grandmother.

Over the past year, there has been much speculation over the state of the brothers’ relationship, following a number of explosive interviews by Meghan and Harry, which went as far as accusing an unnamed member of the family of making racist remarks.

The 40-minute walkabout marked the first time William and Kate have been joined by Harry and Meghan in public for more than two years. The crowd broke out into

applause as the couples approached members of the public and spoke to them.

There was little interaction between the two princes, although at one point William pointed out one particular tribute to his younger sibling.

Onlookers had expected to see just William and Kate, but they were left speechless as Harry and Meghan stepped from the chauffeur-driven Range Rover at the castle’s gates.

The last time they were all seen together was Commonwealth Day on March 9, 2020. The last time William was joined in public by his brother at Windsor Castle was at the funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh in April last year.

A royal source last night said: “The Prince of Wales invited the Duke and Duchess to join him and the Princess of Wales earlier.”

The foursome left together in the same

car. Royal author Margaret Holder said: “It’s a good sign that the Queen’s death has brought them to their senses. It also shows William is beginning to take charge.”

Former BBC royal correspondent Michael Cole said: “Family funerals are often the catalyst of reconciliations. This was an important first step to mending the fences that have been badly damaged between the two royal brothers.”

Banita Ranow, 28, was among the crowd on the Long Walk, and said Kate was “well-ing up” as she spoke to them.

Her mother Baljinder Ranow, 64, spoke of her surprise at seeing the two brothers, adding: “I felt the Queen would have loved it. I hope they remain like that.”

Tina Ward, 60, said: “It’s really nice to see the family united in grief. It’s a shame it’s in grief but it’s nice that they’ve come together.”

Pictures: JAMAES WHATLING & STEVE REIGATE



UNITED BY GRIEF: Harry and Meghan read the tributes, left. Meghan is handed flowers, above. William and Harry chat at the gates after the surprise reunion yesterday, below




QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 – 2022

'I will honour her by



UNITED: William and Kate invited Harry and Meghan to join them meeting well-wishers outside Windsor Castle



TOUCHING: Kate comforts her husband before being presented with armfuls of beautiful bouquets by the crowd



By **Tony Whitfield**

PRINCE of Wales William paid a heartfelt tribute to his Granny as he pledged to honour her memory by supporting his father "in every way I can".

In his first public statement since the Queen died, the Duke, 40, said she had been "by my side at my happiest moments" and "during the saddest days of my life".

He said although he knew this day would come, "it will be some time before the reality of life without Granny will truly feel real".

But he said his "grandmother famously said that grief was the price we pay for love" and all the sadness we "feel in the coming weeks will be testament to the love we felt for our extraordinary Queen".

Although he grieved, he felt "incredibly grateful" that he had the "benefit of the Queen's wisdom and reassurance into my fifth decade".

He noted that Kate "had 20 years of her guidance and support" and their children George, nine, Charlotte, seven, and four-year-old Louis "got to spend holidays with her and create memories that will last their whole lives".

William also thanked his beloved grandmother for the "kindness she showed my family and me" in a statement issued hours after his father King Charles III was formally proclaimed monarch yesterday.

William, then 15, and Harry, 12, were spending the summer at Balmoral when their mother Diana died in a Paris car crash.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were by the Princes' sides, supporting them during the traumatic weeks and months that followed.

William told Sky News documentary *The Queen* at 90 that "having lost my mother at a young age" the Queen had "been incredibly supportive and I've really

'She was by my side during the saddest days of my life'

appreciated her guidance". Yesterday's statement came hours before William and Kate invited the Duke and Duchess of Sussex to join them in meeting well-wishers outside Windsor Castle.

It read: "My grandmother famously said that grief was the price we pay for love. All of the sadness we will feel in the coming weeks will be testament to the love we felt for our extraordinary Queen."

King Charles III announced William and Kate as the new Prince and Princess of Wales in his historic address to the nation on Friday. In the television broadcast he said he was proud to bestow the title on his eldest son and heir.

The title means William is following in the footsteps of his father, who was given the title by his mother when he was nine in 1958. Kate becomes the first person since Diana to use the title Princess of Wales.

● LIZ Truss shook hands with the Queen on Tuesday – and by Thursday was speaking to King Charles III.

The Prime Minister was appointed in the final days of the second Elizabethan Age, and now is at the helm of the country at a true turning point in our history.

She may pinch herself when she thinks back to Tuesday's journey to Balmoral, where the Queen invited her to form a Government. Standing in Downing Street later, Ms Truss declared her ambition to "transform Britain into an aspiration nation".

In the Commons on Thursday she was handed a note by Nadhim Zahawi telling her of the downturn in the Queen's health.

As members of the Royal Family rushed to Balmoral, a chill swept through Westminster as the gravity of the situation became apparent. At 6.30pm the nation's worst fears were confirmed and it was announced that the Queen had died.

Ms Truss spoke for millions of people in shock and grief when she said: "We are all devastated by the news we have just heard from Balmoral."

She then spoke to the new King, and the next day they met in person for the first of their weekly audiences at Buckingham Palace.

supporting my father'

Pictures: KELVIN BRUCE; ANDREW COULDRIDGE/REUTERS



GREETINGS:
Harry and Meghan talk to the crowds who had come to pay their respects

Qualities passed down generations may change everything

WORDS have power. Wise words bring prompt and welcome responses.

King Charles's first televised address, in which went out of his way to express his love for son Harry and his wife Meghan, was wise and kind.

That inspired Prince William to make the move he knew he had to make – telephoning his brother at Frogmore Cottage, in the shadow of Windsor Castle.

He suggested Harry and his wife join Catherine and himself to walk as two couples out of the gates of the castle yesterday evening to view the many bouquets and posies left by people in honour of their grandmother. It was an important show of their fraternal bond.

Family funerals are often the catalyst

COMMENT

By Michael Cole

FORMER BBC ROYAL CORRESPONDENT



for reconciliations. This was an important first step to mending the fences that have been badly damaged – indeed broken down – between the two royal brothers in the last 18 months.

These have been real hurts that have left real resentments.

But a restoration of normal royal relations must begin somewhere and we witnessed it yesterday as the couples, dressed so similarly, came together. No

longer the “Fab Four” of the past, perhaps, but there they were – together.

It is true that there was little or no interaction between the two couples.

The Waleses moved away from the Sussexes as they read the messages from well-wishers.

But then they came together briefly and walked to look at another bank of flowers on the other side of the gates.

Princess Diana would have been distraught at the gulf that has opened up between her sons.

She believed William and Harry would always be there for each other.

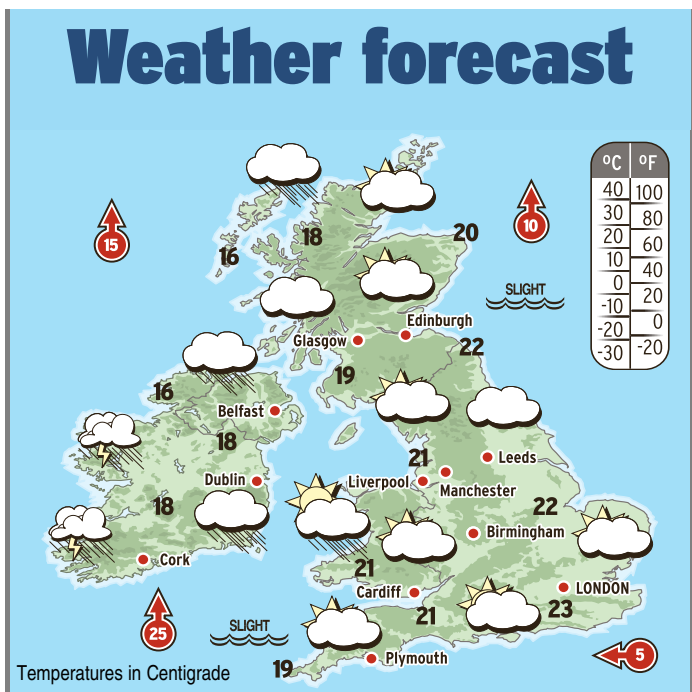
With the 25th anniversary of her death commemorated just 11 days ago, it was time for a renewal of the brotherly

bonds. There is still some way to go and there will have to be frank discussions about the way ahead.

This includes what is not on when it comes to public statements, social media comments, films and books that might bear the imprint of the Sussexes but have a very negative impact on the work of the Royal Family – and that of the newly named Prince and Princess of Wales in particular.

Goodwill, forgiveness and love will be required on both sides, precisely the qualities their grandmother, the Queen, possessed in such abundant quantities.

The grandsons cannot have failed to notice this, as demonstrated by a short walk that may change everything.



Today's summary: A bright start. Rain later.

North West: A dry and bright morning. Cloud moving in later with rain. Moderate south-easterly winds. High 21C (70F).

Northern Ireland: Mainly dull with heavy rain moving during the afternoon. Moderate southerly winds expected. High 18C (64F).

Wales: A dull day with heavy rain moving in during the afternoon. Moderate southerly winds. High 21C (70F).


Midlands: Mainly dry with occasional sunshine but also a lot of cloud later. Gentle southerly winds. High 22C (72F).

North East/Yorks: Mostly dry but with a good deal of cloud and only a little sunshine. Light southerly winds. High 21C (70F).

Scotland: Largely cloudy with spells of rain moving in the west later. Gusty southerly winds. High 20C (68F).

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Warm with sunny spells across the south. Elsewhere it will be a wetter with spells of rain and gusty winds. Sunny spells and showers in Scotland.

SIX-DAY FORECAST						
Temperatures in Centigrade						
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	min max	min max	min max	min max	min max	min max
London	16 25	13 21	12 22	11 20	10 19	9 19
Belfast	10 17	11 18	11 17	10 16	10 15	9 16
Birmingham	13 22	10 20	10 19	9 18	9 18	8 16
Cardiff	15 23	12 20	10 20	10 20	10 19	10 18
Glasgow	10 17	9 18	9 17	10 16	8 16	8 16
Manchester	11 20	10 19	10 18	10 17	9 17	8 16
Newcastle	8 20	8 18	8 16	8 16	7 14	7 15
Norwich	15 25	12 20	12 20	11 18	11 17	11 17
Plymouth	16 20	15 20	13 20	12 20	13 19	12 19

24 hours to 5pm				SUN (hrs)	RAIN (ins)	TEMP (min) (max)	Britain yesterday				Moon, sun and tides			
Aberdeen	8.3	0.00	11	17	Glasgow	8.3	0.00	9	19	MOON rises: 8.09pm, sets: 7.26am				
Aberporth	5.6	0.00	15	18	Hull	3.9	0.05	14	21	SUN rises London: 6.28am, sets: 7.24pm				
Alnwick	0.8	0.04	13	15	Ipswich	5.0	0.00	13	22	Manchester rises: 6.35am, sets: 7.34pm				
Belfast	9.9	0.00	8	20	Leeds	4.6	0.01	13	19		Last Quarter			
Birmingham	5.7	0.00	13	20	Lincoln	4.2	0.02	14	20		17 September			
B'mouth	4.2	0.00	11	21	London	4.6	0.12	12	21		HIGH TIDE			
Bristol	4.7	0.01	14	21	Manchester	2.4	0.00	12	19	London B'ge	(3.11am),	(3.30pm)		
Cardiff	6.0	0.00	13	20	Oxford	2.7	0.01	11	20	Liverpool	(12.12am),	(12.41pm)		
Durham	1.5	0.54	13	15	S'hampton	4.5	0.00	14	21	Greenock	(1.36am),	(2.09pm)		
Edinburgh	6.2	0.00	10	18	St Andrews	7.5	0.00	10	17	Dover	(12.29am),	(12.38pm)		
Britain Extremes:				Warmest: Mumbles 22C (72F) Coldest: Tulloch Bridge 1C (34F) Wettest: Bingley 0.63in. Sunniest: Tice 11.0hr.				Lighting-up times				Glasgow 7.45pm-6.42am London 7.24pm-6.30am Manchester 7.34pm-6.37am Newcastle 7.33pm-6.32am		
(24 hours to 2pm yesterday)								Belfast 7.50pm-6.50am Birmingham 7.32pm-6.36am Bristol 7.34pm-6.40am						

Europe forecast				Tomorrow			
Today							
Amsterdam	Fair	22C/72F	Amsterdam	Fair	24C/75F		
Brussels	Fair	22C/72F	Brussels	Sunny	24C/75F		
Dublin	Rain	17C/63F	Dublin	Rain	18C/64F		
Frankfurt	Fair	22C/72F	Frankfurt	Sunny	24C/75F		
Geneva	Sunny	22C/72F	Geneva	Sunny	27C/81F		
Lisbon	Fair	28C/82F	Lisbon	Thunder	22C/72F		
Madrid	Sunny	36C/97F	Madrid	Thunder	30C/86F		
Paris	Fair	23C/73F	Paris	Sunny	27C/81F		
Rome	Sunny	29C/84F	Rome	Sunny	28C/82F		

Around the world yesterday

Amsterdam . Sunny	C 20	F 68	Hong Kong.. Fair	C 31	F 88	New York... Sunny	C 24	F 75
Athens Sunny	32	90	Istanbul Sunny	26	79	Nice Fair	26	79
Barcelona Fair	28	82	Jersey Fair	19	66	Nicosia Sunny	37	99
Berlin Fair	20	68	Larnaca Sunny	32	90	Perth Sunny	21	70
Budapest Fair	22	72	Las Palmas Fair	26	79	Prague Fair	18	64
Cairo Fair	31	88	Los Angeles. Thndr	38	100	Singapore. . . Fair	30	86
Cape Town Sunny	16	61	Luxor Sunny	37	99	Stockholm . . . Cloudy	15	59
Casablanca . Fair	25	77	Malaga Sunny	28	82	Sydney Fair	22	72
Corfu Cloudy	29	84	Mallorca Sunny	32	90	Tel Aviv Sunny	32	90
Dublin Fair	18	64	Malta Sunny	31	88	Tenerife Sunny	28	82
Dubrovnik Fair	25	77	Melbourne Cloudy	14	57	Toronto Sunny	25	77
Faro Sunny	26	79	Miami Shwrs	32	90	Tunis Sunny	34	93
Florence Fair	28	82	Moscow Sunny	13	55	Venice Sunny	25	77
Gibraltar Sunny	23	73	Nairobi Cloudy	20	68	Vienna Sunny	22	72
Guernsey Fair	19	66	New Delhi Fair	35	95	Warsaw Rain	13	55

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**GOD SAVE THE KING: CHARLES III**

I vow to thee, my country

King will follow mother's 'inspiring example'

By **Tony Whitfield**

KING Charles III vowed he would “strive to follow the inspiring example” set by his beloved mother as he was officially proclaimed monarch yesterday.

He said that “my mother gave an example of lifelong love and of selfless service” and was “irreplaceable”.

As he took up his new responsibilities he vowed he would be “upheld by the affection and loyalty of the peoples whose sovereign I have been called upon to be”.

And, in a historic first, TV audiences around the world were given a glimpse of the moment the reign of Charles III formally began at St James's Palace.

In his declaration, bringing to an end the second Elizabethan era, King Charles paid tribute to the late Queen.

He also announced the Queen's death, and said the entire nation and whole world “sympathise with me in the irreparable loss we have all suffered”.

The King said the outpouring of sympathy had given him “the greatest consolation”.

He added: “To all of us as a family, as to this kingdom and the wider family of nations of which it is a part, my mother gave an example of lifelong love and of selfless service.”

“My mother's reign was unequalled in its duration, its dedication and its devotion.

“Even as we grieve, we give thanks for this most faithful life.

“I am deeply aware of this great inheritance and of the duties and heavy responsibilities of sovereignty which have now passed to me.

“In taking up these responsibilities, I shall strive to follow the inspiring example I have been set in upholding constitutional government and to seek the peace, harmony and prosperity of the peoples of these islands and of the Commonwealth realms and territories throughout the world.”

He added in performing his new

'I now dedicate my life'

It is my most sorrowful duty to announce to you the death of my beloved Mother, The Queen.

I know how deeply you, the entire Nation - and I think I may say the whole world - sympathise with me in the irreparable loss we have all suffered. It is the greatest consolation to me to know of the sympathy expressed by so many to my Sister and Brothers and that such overwhelming affection and support should be extended to our whole family in our loss.

To all of us as a family, as to this kingdom and the wider family of nations of which it is a part, my Mother gave an example of lifelong love and of selfless service.

My Mother's reign was unequalled in its duration, its dedication and its devotion. Even as we grieve, we give thanks for this most faithful life.

I am deeply aware of this great inheritance and of the duties and heavy responsibilities of Sovereignty which have now passed to me. In taking up these responsibilities, I shall strive to follow the inspiring example I have been set in upholding constitutional government and to seek the peace, harmony and prosperity of the peoples of these Islands and of the Commonwealth Realms and Territories throughout the world.

In this purpose, I know that I shall be upheld by the affection and loyalty of the peoples whose Sovereign I have been called upon to be, and that in the discharge of these duties I will be guided by the counsel of their elected parliaments. In all this, I am profoundly encouraged by the constant support of my beloved wife.

I take this opportunity to confirm my willingness and intention to continue the tradition of surrendering the hereditary revenues, including the Crown Estate, to My Government for the benefit of all, in return for the Sovereign Grant, which supports My official duties as Head of State and Head of Nation.

And in carrying out the heavy task that has been laid upon me, and to which I now dedicate what remains to me of my life, I pray for the guidance and help of Almighty God.

TURN TO PAGE 8

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THUNDERBALL
14 16 22 28 36 THUNDERBALL 9

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My kingdom for a clutter-free and larger desk

THERE was a human touch among the pomp and circumstance of the King's proclamation, when an aide was summoned to clear his messy desk.

King Charles III made history when he was proclaimed the new King during the televised ceremony at St James's Palace.

But eagle-eyed viewers of the momentous occasion found themselves distracted when the new monarch suddenly gestured furiously with his hand to one of his aides.

As he went to sign a solemn oath, the King frantically motioned for them to move a pen box

from his table, which viewers described as "far too small" for the huge document and stationery. Royal watchers were left amused at the sight of the tense ceremony being momentarily interrupted while the King waited for the offending box to be removed so he could sign the second part of the large document.

The fountain pen set he used was a gift from his sons Princes Harry and William.

Some viewers even joked the new King "stole" the pen after spotting him put it in his pocket before taking it out again.



Queen's 'wish' comes true for King Charles

By **Marco Giannangeli** DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

KING Charles has become Head of the Commonwealth, as part of an accession plan agreed just four years ago.

Although the Queen took over from her father, George VI, the post is not hereditary.

But Her Majesty, then aged 92 at her last Commonwealth Heads of Governments Meeting in 2018, made it known that she wanted to be succeeded by her son.

Addressing the gathering, Queen Elizabeth said: "It is my sincere wish that the Commonwealth will continue to offer stability and continuity for future generations, and will decide that one day the Prince of Wales should carry on the important work started by my father in 1949."

She is thought to have lobbied leaders and foreign ministers at a private gathering at Windsor Castle before they later confirmed the decision which then-prime minister Theresa May said was unanimous.

Charles said he was "deeply touched and honoured" by his endorsement.

He has spoken passionately about the organisation in the past, calling it a "cornerstone" to his life during a speech in Singapore in 2017.

In Malaysia that year, he also stressed how it can play a "pivotal" role in tackling global challenges, with its "wide range of national contexts, experiences, traditions".

His increased involvement had already caused speculation the heir to the throne would succeed his mother.

In 2007, Charles attended an overseas CHOGM for the first time. The opening ceremony in Uganda was performed by the Queen, but the Prince of Wales supported her visit in a move towards encouraging member nations to back him.

In 2013 he formally opened the summit in Sri Lanka in 2013, representing his mother for the first time.

And in 2015 the Prince and Duchess of Cornwall accompanied the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh to Malta.

Speaking in 2018, he said: "The Commonwealth has been a fundamental feature of my life for as long as I can remember, beginning with my first visit to Malta when I was just five years old."

The 1949 London Declaration said the British monarch would be a symbol of the free association of independent countries and as such Head of the Commonwealth.

This meant republics could be members and accept the Queen as head without her being their own head of state.

Of the 56 members, 15 are realms with the monarch as their head of state. Five have their own monarchies.

What isn't known is whether any will now divest themselves of the royal connection.

Barbados became a republic last year, with Charles there to witness the historic transition.

And while Australia narrowly rejected replacing the Queen with a president in 1999, appetite for republicanism continues. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, a known republican, has set aside £160million for another vote.

HISTORIC MOMENT: Charles makes declaration and signs documents of Accession, witnessed by William





GOD SAVE THE KING: CHARLES III

'My Mother's reign was duration, its dedication

FROM PAGE 6

task he was "profoundly encouraged by the constant support of my beloved wife".

The pageant and ceremony to mark the symbolic transition to a new reign has until now taken place behind closed doors. Aspects date back more than 1,000 years.

But allowing in cameras was one of the first changes instigated by the new King.

Audiences also witnessed the moment Camilla the Queen Consort and William, the new Prince of Wales, as well as current and former prime ministers, bishops and dignitaries all pledged their allegiance as their new monarch appeared before them. All proclaimed: "God Save the King."

The King also signed an oath to uphold the security of the Scottish Church, with Prince William and Camilla bearing witness.

The new monarch was pictured smiling through tears as he waved at the crowd of well-wishers who cheered and shouted "God Save the King" as the sovereign's vehicle drove through the gates of Buckingham Palace after his proclamation and a day of pomp and ceremony.

Outside, thousands continued to leave floral tributes in memory of his beloved "mama" Queen Elizabeth II.

Camilla smiled and waved to well-wishers as she arrived in a separate car.

And, in a sign that he intended to stick to his oath and continue the Queen's work, he later held an audience with the Prime Minister, members of the Cabinet and opposition leaders at the Palace.

Yesterday's historic day was part of a long-established and highly choreographed plan for the national mourning period, which will include a bank holiday on the day of the state funeral.

Charles automatically became the new sovereign on the death of his mother aged 96 at Balmoral Castle on Thursday afternoon.

The Accession Council, a body of advisers that dates back to the time of the Norman kings, usually convenes within 24 hours to formally proclaim an ascension.

However, because the news of Queen Elizabeth II's death emerged late on Thursday, the ceremony was postponed until yesterday.

It took part in two stages, with the Accession Council convening to sign the proclamation at 10am.

Following convention, Charles did not attend the first part of the ceremony, when the death of the Queen was formally announced and he was proclaimed as the new King.

But, breaking with tradition, for the first time women were permitted to attend.

And Commons Leader Penny Mordaunt, as Lord President of the Privy Council, also became the first woman to proclaim a new monarch.

The 250-strong council began proceedings in the State Apartments of St James's Palace, with the event attended by Camilla,

The proclamation

Whereas it has pleased almighty God to call to his mercy our late Sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth II of blessed and glorious memory, by whose decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George.

We, therefore, the lords spiritual and temporal of this realm, and members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty's Privy Council, and representatives of the realms and territories, aldermen, and citizens of London and others, do now hereby, with one voice and consent of tongue and heart, publish and proclaim that the Prince Charles Philip Arthur George, is now, by the death of our late Sovereign of happy memory, become our only lawful and rightful liege lord, Charles III, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, and of his other realms and territories, King, head of the Commonwealth, defender of the faith, to whom we do acknowledge all faith and obedience with humble affection, beseeching God, by whom kings and queens do reign, to bless His Majesty with long and happy years to reign over us.

God Save the King (the packed room repeated the famous phrase)

Prince William, Privy Counsellors and other dignitaries. Also present were the new Prime Minister Liz Truss, and former prime ministers Boris Johnson, Lady Theresa May, David Cameron, Gordon Brown, Sir Tony Blair and Sir John Major.

The proclamation of Charles becoming King was then read out before members of the council, including Camilla, William and MPs from both sides of the House, signed it.

Among those pictured signing the document were Deputy Labour Leader Angela Rayner and former PM Mr Johnson.

Ms Mordaunt, who only became leader of the council last week, then read a series of orders for the publication and organisation of the transfer of power to the King.

The proceedings then moved to the Throne Room, where everyone greeted the new King by saying "God save the King" as he entered the room and made his personal declaration.

Members of the public were then allowed to witness the proclamation of King Charles

III as it was publicly announced on the Palace balcony overlooking Friary Court at 1pm.

Flanked by state trumpeters, the Garter King of Arms read the first and principal proclamation before saying "God Save The King", which the eager crowd repeated.

The state trumpeters sounded the Royal Salute and the national anthem was then played by the King's Guard, previously the Queen's, with the crowd joining in and singing along.

As the principal proclamation of the new reign was completed, gun salutes rang out across the country and abroad.

Sixty-two rounds were fired near Tower Bridge beside the River Thames by the Honourable Artillery Company, and 41 rounds beside Park Lane by the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. Spectators lined up across Tower Bridge and along the river.

Salutes were also fired from Cardiff Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Gibraltar, Colchester, York, Larkhill near Stonehenge, naval bases in Devonport and Portsmouth

and a number of stations at sea.

Yesterday, a second proclamation was read on the steps of the Royal

Exchange in the City of London in front of a crowd of thousands at noon.

In a ceremony similar to the one witnessed at St James's Palace, state trumpeters led a procession which included the Lord Mayor and various City officers.

Trumpeters sounded a fanfare, marking the start of the proceedings. The Common Cryer called for silence from the crowd before the Clarenceux King of Arms, a London officer of arms, read the proclamation and proclaimed: "God save the King!" It was met with applause and cheers.

The Band of the Coldstream Guards later followed with the national anthem, with the crowd of course singing "King" in place of "Queen".

The Lord Mayor then called for "three cheers for His Majesty The King!"

Leaving Buckingham Palace, the King and Queen got out of their Rolls-Royce for an impromptu walkabout, greeting well-wishers lining The Mall as they made their

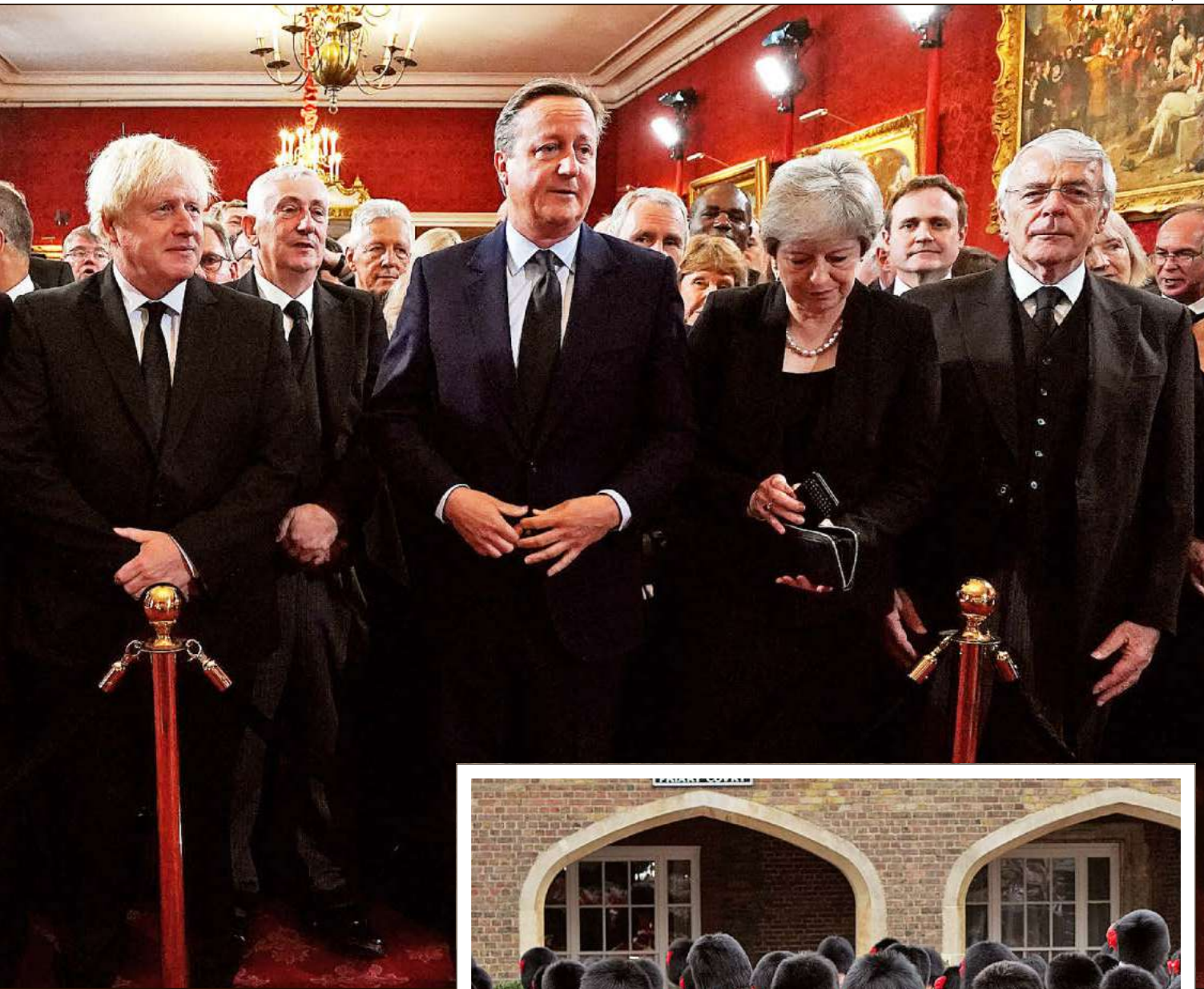


BIG NAMES: From left, Sir Keir Starmer, Sir Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, Boris Johnson, David Cameron, Lady Theresa May and Sir John Major at St James's Palace yesterday. Left, Brown and Johnson

'You really felt that next era was starting'

unequalled in its and its devotion'

Pictures: KIRSTY O'CONNOR & KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/PA; DANIEL LEAL/GETTY



way to Clarence House. Cheers and applause rang out along with "God save the King" as the smiling couple shook hands with and accepted bouquets of flowers from people who had waited for hours.

Speaking after the event, Lady May said: "It's a very solemn, very historic occasion, and a very sad occasion. But we're here to celebrate a new King. One of the great benefits of our constitution is continuity, which gives great reassurance."

David Cameron added: "A great privilege of this job was the weekly audience with the Queen." He said he "drew a lot of strength" from the monarch's loyal service.

Boris Johnson said: "It's a very sad time but it is also one of renewal and hope. It's an absolute privilege to be here. Everybody is conscious that nothing like this has happened for seven decades. They are witnessing history, full of hope and confidence."

Spectator Chrissie Ellis, 61, from north London, said: "I feel very privileged to have seen it." She added: "You're so used to singing about the Queen. That's what I've been brought up with and known all my life. It felt strange, but also momentous and historic."



HATS OFF TO YOU: Coldstream Guards cheer as the proclamation is read



HIP HIP: Garter King of Arms David Vines White

Day that time and old guard stood still...

By **Marco Giannangeli**

AS they proclaimed "Three cheers for His Majesty the King", the men of Number 7 Company, Coldstream Guards, knew they were reliving a moment steeped in history.

For in 1660 their Number 7 forebears proclaimed the new King Charles II.

It was one of many examples of a day rooted in the past, with every footstep, trumpet sound and pen signature connected in some way to traditions stretching back to the mists of time.

The accession ceremony which yesterday officially proclaimed King Charles III as monarch is said to date from Anglo-Saxon times, when councils elected the English ruler from among a handful of eligible royal males.

But the first modern Accession Council dates back just 400 years to 1603, when Scottish King James VI also

'Traditions from mists of time

became James I of England. The meeting of Privy Counsellors and Great Officers of State only gathers on the death of a monarch to proclaim the new King or Queen.

Garter Principal King of Arms David Vines White, resplendent in a red and gold velvet tabard, confided: "It's a great honour, something we have been preparing for years. It's emotional."

Before the ceremony, the newly named King's Guard had taken up positions with shouts of "Be still" from their captain.

But once the National Anthem sounded – following Charles being proclaimed King by the Garter King of Arms from a balcony – it was the turn of Number 7 company to give their special tribute.

On the order of their captain, they placed their weapons on the ground – an unusual step for the royal protectors – and removed their bearskins,

As the Garter King of Arms declared: "Three Cheers for His Majesty The King. Hip-Hip..." three times, the men responded "Hooray", raising their bearskins above their heads.

This was echoed at the Royal Exchange in the City of London, attended by the Lord Mayor.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 – 2022

Blessed was the Bentley 'healed' by the bishop!

THE ARCHBISHOP of York has told how he once "healed" the Queen's Bentley after it refused to start.

The Most Rev Stephen Cottrell recalled the "slightly scurrilous" anecdote in the House of Lords as peers gathered for a second day to pay their respects to the late monarch.

Mr Cottrell told the chamber: "I had preached in Sandringham parish church. We were standing outside. The Bentley was there to get the Queen, the Bentley didn't start.

"It made that throaty noise that cars make in the middle of winter when they are not going to start.

"Everybody stands there doing nothing. I am expecting a policeman to intervene. Nothing happens."

He went on: "Enjoying the theatre of the moment, I step forward and make a large sign of the cross over the Queen's car to the enjoyment of the crowd. There were hundreds of people there – it was the Queen.

"I see the Queen out the corner of my eye, looking rather stony faced at this point, and I think perhaps I've over-stepped the mark."

He added: "Anyway, the driver tries the car again and praise the Lord, the car started. The Queen gets in and goes back to Sandringham. I follow in another car.

"When I arrive at Sandringham as I come into lunch, the Queen with a beaming smile says 'Ah, bishop. It's the bishop. He healed my car!'"

Real-life Royal drama a must for TV viewers

CANTHERE be a republican left in Britain? Surely not after yesterday's extraordinary day of pageantry, ceremony and spectacle on live TV, writes David Stephenson.

Who needs Game Of Thrones or The Crown? We had the real thing, with better costumes and players.

As the day began, at least for TV, the solemn mood was lifting just slightly. ITV was even scheduling The Masked Dancer.

A rare Saturday edition of Good Morning Britain (ITV) had Ben Shephard and Susanna Reid capturing the national spirit more confidently than stiff BBC Breakfast.

They wanted to know more details about the King from Three Degrees' singer Sheila Ferguson. "We used to watch the polo," enthused Ferguson. "Every cassette in his car was ours."

For the Proclamation of HM the King (BBC One), it felt right to turn to the national broadcaster. A croaky Sophie Raworth told viewers they would hear "archaic language".

Indeed, we did. We should applaud the monarchy for bringing together such a collection of politicians, old and new, and making them stand. Poor Gordon Brown was swaying.

Proclamations signed, the formal part was done, and cheers could be heard outside St James's Palace. A TV show we shall never forget.

COMFORTING:
Andrew gives
Eugenie a hug
as they read
tributes with
Beatrice



STRUGGLE...Zara and Andrew look strained

THE Queen's grand-daughters Princess Eugenie and Zara Tindall wiped tears away as they joined the Royal party reading tributes at Balmoral.

It was the first time the family have been seen in Scotland since the monarch's death on Thursday and they appeared to take comfort from talking to well-wishers.

Princess Anne, 72, Prince Andrew, 62, and Prince Edward pored over the flowers at the estate gates along with Princess Beatrice, 34, Lady Louise Windsor, 18, and Peter Phillips, 44.

Eugenie, 32, laid a posy and both she and Zara, 41, bowed their heads as they were overcome with grief.

Earlier the Royals had been driven to Crathie Kirk for a short church service also attended by members of the Queen's household.

The church was visited regularly by the Queen during her stays at Balmoral.

The family then walked across the bridge over the River Dee towards the castle, nodding and waving at crowds lining the route.

Prince Edward, 58, accompanied by his wife Sophie, 57, learned one group had travelled from Glasgow to show their support.

He responded: "Thank you very much for coming all that way, we

By **Tony Whitfield**

appreciate it." Asked by a mourner how things were, Prince Andrew revealed: "We've been allowed one day. Now we start the process of handing her on. It's nice to see you, thank you for coming."

The Royals then walked towards the vast collection of flowers and tributes and the crowd fell silent.

Later they stood together at the castle gates to wave to the crowd, who began applauding.

Andrew put his hands together in a prayer position and briefly bowed to them. One woman said: "How lovely."

Ross Homer, 42, a Royal Engineer, travelled to Balmoral from Kinloss with his partner Kate, 38, and two daughters Laila, 14, and Roxy, 12.

He said: "There was Andrew, Edward, Sophie and their daughter at the front. We said, 'Sorry for your loss' as they walked past and they said, 'Thank you'.

"You could see the tears in their eyes, they looked very sad. You could see they had been crying.

"They showed their appreciation for everybody, standing with their flowers – it was lovely to see. A very heartfelt moment. It's been nice to see how much the Queen's loved."

Pictures: PHIL NOBLE & HANNAH MCKAY/REUTERS; KARWAI TANG/WIREIMAGE; OWEN HUMPHREYS/PA

Strength in numbers



THE FIRM:
Royals stand together to thank crowds and were met with a round of applause



FOR MAMA: Anne, Edward and Andrew take in hundreds of tributes



Cherished bond of Sophie and Queen

THE Queen and the Countess of Wessex were "as close as mother and daughter".

Sophie, 57, was said to be her mother-in-law's "favourite" after she married Prince Edward. Aides observed "a great deal of love and mutual respect between them".

Sophie became the Queen's rock after the death of Prince Philip last year.

The ex-PR executive, who lives at Bagshot Park, Surrey, with Edward and their two children – James, Viscount Severn, 14, and Lady Louise Windsor, 18 – often accompanied her to church at Sandringham or Balmoral.

The monarch, it was said, "found her presence soothing" and liked to be "completely calm before church".

The pair often spent Saturday or Sunday evenings together at Windsor, watching old films and historical documentaries.

Brought up in Kent by a tyre firm executive father and a secretary mother, Sophie is believed to have even convinced the Queen to watch *The Crown* on Netflix.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 – 2022

We will be numb and sad as we mourn end of an era

COMMENT

By Noel McDermott

PSYCHOTHERAPIST
AND BROADCASTER



IT'S DIFFICULT to divorce the loss of Elizabeth from the preceding few years.

Older generations remember the war and her family, and the young Elizabeth coming to the throne on the back of that.

Current generations have experienced four years of seemingly endless existential threats: Brexit, pandemic, Ukraine war, cost-of-living crisis.

In between this there have been radical changes in the world order and yet one thing has remained true: our Elizabeth on the throne.

Now that has ended, we reach a most definite end of an era and we will experience complex emotions.

There will initially be numbness and confusion and a struggle to accept it as real. These are generally the first stages of grief.

Numbness is a form of protective disassociation, before we experience sadness and then other strong emotions such as anger.

Many may be surprised that they feel loss at all, as this type of

'Our emotions will be complex'

grieving is often referred to as "disenfranchised grief".

Disenfranchised grief is when we somehow tell ourselves it's not legitimate to feel loss, like feeling loss at the death of an adult child's partner for example. We tell ourselves it is legitimate for our child to grieve but not ourselves. This will be a typical reaction.

But whether or not we feel the monarchy is a part of our life, it is for sure the case that Elizabeth was – she had tea with Paddington Bear after all!

She reflected many aspects of being British which we cherish and identify with. What would you feel if Paddington died? Yes, he's a fictional character and in some ways so was Elizabeth, but we have an innate and very human ability to imbue inanimate objects with emotional meaning as much as we do with other people.

Individuals and communities will find unique ways to express the loss they feel and this is likely to coalesce into something organic, spontaneous, and meaningful.

A key function of public grieving is to allow those who lose meaning through the death of someone to regain meaning by sharing.

This thing, when it happens, will be as unlikely and as surprising and as perfect as her jumping out of a helicopter with 007, or her having tea with Paddington.

A nation united in our grief

A NATION'S grief was on display yesterday as thousands of people paid tribute to our beloved Queen.

At Royal Residences across the UK, countless bouquets of flowers continued to be placed as mourners shared their memories of Elizabeth and her 70-year reign.

At Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, Balmoral, Sandringham, Hillsborough Castle, the Palace of Holyroodhouse, as well as Green Park in London, Her Majesty's loyal subjects showed how much they cared for her and gave thanks for her years of service.

A tearful Melanie Knight, 54, made the journey from Tunbridge Wells, Kent, to Buckingham Palace to offer condolences.

"I'm really emotional. We just needed to be here," Melanie said.

"She's the one constant that's always been and it's really strange.

"I went up into my attic yesterday specifically to find my Brownie pack memorabilia because I remembered I pledged my allegiance to serve the Queen and God. I've never ever thought about it until yesterday."

Andy Bow, 57, from Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, was at Buckingham Palace. The Armed Forces veteran said: "I'm just completely bereft really. I served the Queen while I was in the Army for 14 years. She just means so much to me, she's everything.

"She's the mother of our nation I think. I,



TRIBUTE: A young girl at Balmoral

By Bernie Torre and Julia Kuttner

along with the vast majority of everybody here, am a little bit lost and not sure what's going to happen. So I just felt I had to come down and pay my respects for the last time."

The visit to Buckingham Palace was an emotional occasion for sisters Francesca Prescott, 54, and Michela Grigioni, 52, from Sevenoaks, Kent, after their mother Estelle Hyams died, aged 81, last year.

They said she would have been "over the moon" and "proud" to see them there and would have said "That's my girls".

At Balmoral, where the Queen died on Thursday, a stream of people crossed a bridge over the River Dee to lay flowers.

Thousands of bouquets have been left at the gates of her favourite Scottish home. One card read: "Ma'am, thank you for your dedication and years of service. There will always be a special place in Heaven."

Another featured a child's drawing of the late monarch with "I miss you Queen".

Tributes laid at Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh included a copy of Michael Bond's book Paddington At The Rainbow's End.

A note written on it read simply "One last story Ma'am. X"

Another well-wisher left a marmalade sandwich inside a zipped plastic bag with a note saying "For later" next to a stuffed Paddington Bear.

Both are nods to the sketch featuring the Queen at the Platinum Jubilee in June.

In Windsor, long queues formed outside the Long Mile as people gathered to pay their respects to the Queen.

Mother Angela Clarke, 72, and daughter

SANDRINGHAM

FOR OUR BELOVED QUEEN: Thousands of floral tributes have been left across the country for the Queen, including one from the Sunday Express, right. Inset left, in Edinburgh, a marmalade sandwich 'for later' was left



Lucy, 50, from Staines, Surrey, were among those leaving flowers.

Angela said: "We were so upset.

"We feel close to her here in Windsor, this was her home.

"When I try to think of the Queen it's just her big, big smile. She put people at ease. She carried that out to the end."

Gill Wintle, 74, from Ashford, Kent, said: "I remember the Coronation, the street parties and being dressed up

for the fancy dress.

"We had an old, old black-and-white television. It was like a box, with a small screen.

"We were lucky enough to have a television in our street. Everyone came to our house to watch it."

Louise and Andrew Falconer travelled from Watford to pay their respects.

Mrs Falconer, 63, said: "You realise it has actually happened when you see all this."

**Did you meet the Queen?
Please email us your memories
and photos to:
ourqueen@reachplc.com**

Pictures: ALBANPIX; PHIL NOBLE/REUTERS; JIM BENNETT/KELVIN BRUCE; ADRIAN DENNIS/GETTY; CHRISTIAN CHARISIUS/AVALON; PA

WINDSOR



HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE

GREEN PARK




QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 – 2022

Join me tonight in the

COMMENT
By Jennifer Selway

 SUNDAY EXPRESS
COLUMNIST


THE VICTORIA Memorial in all its white-and-gilded glory stands at the end of The Mall. From her vantage point, a matronly and slightly disdainful Queen Victoria, bearing orb and sceptre, gazes down at the traffic and the tourists. Earlier this summer, she gazed down at guitarist Brian May as he kicked off the Platinum Jubilee Party concert on the platform built around her.

Her expression didn't change, possibly because she is made of marble and also because she has seen similar sights before whenever crowds gather in The Mall.

This great edifice, 80ft high, is the tallest monument to a monarch in Britain and was designed by Sir Thomas Brock.

In 1901, after Victoria died, her son Edward VII requested that a joint parliamentary committee be formed to develop plans for a memorial. It was to be "monumental". It was also seen as a means of giving processional magnificence to The Mall and making the dull entrance to Buckingham Palace more impressive.

In the coming months, many committees will be meeting to discuss how to create a suitable memorial to Queen Elizabeth II.

There will be heated arguments about



funding and subject matter because there are always heated arguments about this kind of thing. It is unlikely that "monumental" will be on anyone's list of criteria. That sounds too imperial, too grandiose. We don't like that sort of thing now.

Even in 1911 when the Victoria Memorial was finally unveiled there were complaints.

In *The Sphere: The Empire's Illustrated Weekly*, the critic complained that it was "curiously disappointing". But "fortunately the memory of Queen Victoria is enshrined in the hearts and we hope, in the history of her people. Otherwise the memory of a great Queen would be in jeopardy".

As it happens there is very little chance of forgetting Victoria, either in London, the UK or across the world. From the fictional Queen Vic pub in *EastEnders* to the Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe (named by explorer David Livingstone in 1855), she is everywhere, reflecting the extraordinary bulldozing confidence of the Victorian age. Though it is curious to learn that Victoria Station was simply named after Victoria Street rather than the woman herself. But of course Victoria Street – and a whole area of the capital – was named after her.

Apart from the pub in Albert Square, scene of many a shouty evening, there are 171 in Britain called the Queen Victoria. It's

Picture: ANDREW MATTHEWS/GETTY

ELIZABETH L



the 19th most popular name, with the most common being the Red Lion.

Unfortunately in the first six months of this year 200 pubs closed and the traditional watering hole is in sad decline. So it seems doubtful Queen Elizabeth II pubs will be springing up.

Victoria's namesakes across the world reflect Britain's imperial past, but the vast number of places, parks, hospitals, roads, bridges and schools named after our late Queen are invariably expressions of appreciation for her love of the Commonwealth.

The Queen Elizabeth Hall on London's South Bank, opened in 1967, is a part of the arts complex that includes the Purcell Room, the Royal Festival Hall and the Hayward Gallery.

It seems very likely that future memorials to Elizabeth in London will also be focused

on what we might call a kind of "soft power" – the arts, architecture and the infrastructure of the capital or some other town.

WE HAVE already seen the opening of the Elizabeth Line on the London Underground and the renaming of Big Ben's Clock Tower as the Elizabeth Tower in 2012 to mark the Diamond Jubilee. The sports complex in East London built for the 2012 Olympics was renamed the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. In 2014, Heathrow Airport's terminal two (opened by the Queen in 1955) was renamed the Queen's Terminal.

Not, you notice, the Queen Elizabeth Terminal. While Her Majesty was alive anything designated as "the Queen's" obvi-

ously referred to her. Apparently this business of who is meant by the phrase "the Queen" proved a sore point for the Queen Mother. After George VI died and her daughter acceded to the throne, she rather resented becoming merely "a queen" rather than "the Queen".

You might think the great ocean liner the Queen Elizabeth, Cunard's sister ship to the Queen Mary was named after Elizabeth II. But of course it was launched in 1938 and was named after the Queen Mother.

The liner was replaced in 1969 by the Queen Elizabeth 2 (always known as the QE2) which was named by *our* Queen. Everyone alive now will always refer to her as "our Queen" won't they?

Another of the Queen Mother's namesakes was BEA's Airspeed Ambassador,

Queen Liz...



SIGNS OF THE TIMES: The Queen at Paddington as the Elizabeth Line nears completion. Other royal sites include the Victoria Memorial, Elizabeth Tower, the Queen Vic and Queen Elizabeth Hall on the South Bank

known as “Elizabethan Class” that took to the skies in 1947. Tragically it was also the type of aircraft involved in the Munich Air Disaster in 1958 which killed so many of the Manchester United football team.

That word “Elizabethan” carries a lot of weight. When Elizabeth became Queen upon the death of her father in 1952 there was much talk of a new Elizabethan Age, mirroring the buccaneering magnificence and formidable achievements of the first Queen Elizabeth’s reign.

Like the Tudor monarch, our Queen came to the throne at the age of 25, a beacon of renewal as the modern world emerged tattered from the Second World War.

The historian Ben Pimlott wrote of the “colourful awakening of affluence, final parade of Empire” that heightened “the association of Monarchy and Royalty with

youth, modernity and hope”. Yet somehow the phrase “the new Elizabethan age” never stuck. We know exactly what we mean by “Victorian” and “Edwardian” but we still only use the word “Elizabethan” to talk about the Tudors.

There will be physical memorials of many kind to “our Queen” in the coming years, buildings, statues and civic centrepieces.

But will there also be an intangible memorial, a name for this age, a shorthand for that 70-year reign which has seen so many shocks and changes and yet has also provided our country with a stability that we have taken for granted for so long?

We may ache with nostalgia for that departed time, that seemingly endless era when “our Queen” was on the throne. But what will that age be called?

Governments have all come and gone...but she was always there

COMMENT

By Catherine Pepinster

HISTORIAN AND ROYAL AUTHOR



IT WAS lunchtime on Thursday when I got a call from the BBC, asking me if I could talk to Huw Edwards about the Queen, whose doctors were deeply concerned about her condition.

Huw, *below*, was already wearing a black tie, and health correspondent Hugh Pym was getting ready to swap his red one for a similarly sombre number. It was clear that the end was coming.

What did I think? asked Hugh. I replied with what I sensed so profoundly at that moment: “The tectonic plates are shifting.” And how seismic it felt when we heard the formal announcement that the Queen had died.

On LBC Radio, Andrew Marr wept as he told listeners the news. We had all seen that the Queen had become increasingly frail and could only cope with a few engagements.

Yet this moment – which our new King Charles III told well-wishers outside Buckingham Palace on Friday he had always dreaded – when our Platinum Queen had passed away, came as the most awful, troubling shock.

It is not the first time that the nation has been so discombobulated. Elizabeth II’s closest record-breaking ancestor, Victoria, reigned for 63 years. On the day she died in 1901, the novelist Henry James was staying at his club in London’s Pall Mall.

He wrote to a friend about his “unexpected emotions” and said: “I mourn the safe and motherly old middle-class Queen, who held the nation warm under the fold of her big, hideous Scotch-plaid shawl and whose duration has been so extraordinarily convenient and beneficent. She was a sustaining symbol. The wild waters are upon us now.”

Many of us have felt like that since the Queen died, that the wild waters could sweep us away. Like Henry James, many people have spoken of their unexpected emotions – people who did not think of themselves as devoted royalists found that they, like Andrew Marr, wept.

There were similar tears when Diana, Princess of Wales, died, but they were perhaps more understandable – she was a beautiful 36-year-old

woman, with two young children, cut off in the prime of her life.

But Elizabeth II was, as Henry James described her great-great-grandmother Victoria, a sustaining symbol. She formed the background to our lives for so long.

Governments have come and gone, the economy has gone up and back down, we have endured floods and droughts, but she was always there.

Many of us assumed she would go on for ever, or at least match her mother in reaching her centenary. After all, the Queen survived Covid.

The pandemic was one of her great moments. She reassured us and said,

“We will meet again”, when we were

incarcerated during lockdown, unable to see friends and even members of our families.

We also saw how she refused any

special treatment during the pandemic,

and like countless others, sat masked and alone at the funeral of a loved one, in her case her beloved husband, Prince Philip.

At the time of 9/11, when messages of support for the American people arrived from across the world, one arrived from Elizabeth II. Former president Bill Clinton has spoken of how the Queen managed to explain why the distress was so great in just a few, remarkable words. “Grief is the price we pay for love”, she wrote.

The words God Save The King still sound strange, but the new King has already appeared several times. The more we see him, the more life will seem to adjust.

King Charles’s eloquent words, expressing his own loss on the death of his mother and acknowledging the people’s too, drew the nation together.

Our mourning has some way to go but now, it seems, those tectonic plates have settled once more. The Queen can be, as yesterday’s proclamation of the new King put it, “of happy memory”.





SUNDAY EXPRESS OPINION

THE COUNTRY mourns Queen Elizabeth's death but we are also ablaze with pride at the life and legacy of this greatest of monarchs. When we look back at seven decades of her extraordinary reign, we see a platinum thread running through our history.

In both bleak and bountiful days, she brought comfort, courage and cheer to people in the United Kingdom and throughout the world.

Now the baton has been passed to Charles in what is an unsettling and uncertain time for the nation.

But his first few hours as King have given us every reason to believe he will take forward the finest traditions of his mother's reign and win the respect and admiration of the world.

In the first statement of his reign, he saluted his mother's "love, affection, guidance, understanding and example" and praised the way that she had kept a "promise with destiny".

He told the country: "That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today."

These are inspiring words from a man who as Prince of Wales has already demonstrated a passionate commitment to public service. Through the foundation of the Prince's Trust he has helped more than a million young people, many of whom came from desperately difficult backgrounds, fulfil their potential. He has

'She was devoted to serving the nation'

championed the protection of the environment, forged friendships with minority communities and laboured to strengthen bonds which unite the Commonwealth.

Yesterday this grieving son of a precious mother vowed he would endeavour to serve us with "loyalty, respect and love".

He has spent a lifetime preparing for this challenge and this 73-year-old follows in the footsteps of a monarch who will be remembered for centuries for her devotion to serving the nation.

Speaking at his proclamation as King yesterday, he praised this "example of lifelong love and of selfless service" and said he is "deeply aware of this great inheritance and of the duties and heavy responsibilities of sovereignty which have now passed to me".

The whole nation will wish him the very best as he embarks on this mission. Comparisons with his mother are inevitable but if he lives by her values and uses the power of the Crown to bring the country together he will take forward the best of her legacy.

The Queen was blessed with effervescent style and a unique gift to make people happy. But she also had a strategic understanding of how a monarch can give citizens from radically different backgrounds a sense of common belonging. King Charles III will have unique opportunities to continue this work and promote deeper understanding between peoples.

Even in her death, his mother was a force of unity.

She passed away in her beloved Balmoral, the Scottish estate where she enjoyed both solitude and celebrations. It was a powerful reminder that while

Queen who left a lasting legacy of hope for us all



STRONG BOND: King Charles III has spent his whole life learning from his mother's integrity and sense of duty

American tourists might refer to her as the "Queen of England," she had a profound understanding of the histories, aspirations and sensitivities of each nation of the United Kingdom.

Balmoral was as much a "home" to her as Windsor Castle or Buckingham Palace. The shock and grief at her passing have demonstrated that people in all parts of the United Kingdom are united in respect and love for her.

She embodied virtues of kindness, diligence and integrity that are universally prized. With sacrificial devotion to her coronation vows, she worked until the end for the good of us all.

Visitors to the UK are often struck by the diversity within our borders and may wonder what holds us together. It's simple. We were loved, served and inspired by Queen Elizabeth II and we treasure her values.

We will never forget the moment in April 2020 when, with the UK gripped by the Covid-19 pandemic, she assured us this era of isolation would end. Echoing the Second World War song, she told us: "We will meet again."

Her passing is so painful because there is

no prospect of seeing her on this side of eternity. So many of us felt that we knew her because she understood the cares and pressures facing everyday families with uncanny clarity; when she met with the prime minister each week, we knew she was our champion.

Other monarchs have commanded respect, but has any been so dearly loved? There was nothing chilly about her commitment to duty. Rather, it was coupled to a delight in the pleasures of family, horses, dogs and picnics.

HER SMILE lit up a kingdom, and people of every generation flocked to see her on the balcony at Buckingham Palace at successive Jubilee celebrations. This bond between the Queen and her people grew even stronger in her final decade.

We treasured each day the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were still with us, never taking this golden age for granted.

Together, they demonstrated that a life lived in pursuit of the good of others is not an existence starved of happiness or fulfilment; quite the opposite. Whether in

palaces or council estates, people jumped at the chance to throw open their doors to this pair whose dedication to their calling never eclipsed their delight in each other's company.

As a nation of nations, we will now unite in thanksgiving for the life of Queen Elizabeth II – and support her son and successor as his reign begins.

His time on the throne will not match the length of his mother's, but this fascinating, kind and conscientious man will bring his unique gifts to the role. He will grasp every opportunity to enrich our lives.

Together with his beloved wife, Camilla, the Queen Consort, they will bring laughter, comfort and encouragement to peoples in Britain and beyond.

We hope they enjoy the adventures ahead. These are days of mourning but together they will find joy as they serve this country and celebrate all those who also labour in the cause of goodness.

The Queen slipped away, secure in the knowledge that her son – and one day her grandson – will continue her brilliant work. For both the royal couple and the country they love, the future will be happy and glorious.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 – 2022

Picture: DOMINIC LIPINSKI/PA

Celebrities join the community online in grief

Mick Jagger @mickjagger · 18h
For my whole life I've loved Her Majesty. Queen Elizabeth II has always been there. In my childhood I can recall watching her wedding highlights on TV. I remember her as a beautiful young lady, to the much beloved grandmother of the nation. My deepest sympathies are with the Royal family.



POIGNANT: Mick Jagger

Paul McCartney @paulmccartney · 18h

On the sad occasion of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's passing, my memories came flooding back and I would like to share these with you.

I feel privileged to have been alive during the whole of Queen Elizabeth II's reign. When I was 10 years old I entered an essay competition in Liverpool and won my division for my essay about the British Monarchy so I have been a fan for a long time. In 1953 when the Queen was crowned everyone on our street in Spelde, Liverpool finally got a television set and we settled down to watch the Coronation in glorious black and white.

Looking back I am honoured and amazed to see that I met Her Majesty eight or nine times and each time she impressed me with her great sense of humour combined with great dignity.

God bless you. You will be missed.
Read Paul's memories at PaulMcCartney.com (link in bio)

MEMORIES: Paul McCartney

Tweet:
Simon Cowell @SimonCowell · 18h

I'm incredibly sad to hear of the passing of the Queen. With incredible strength she was someone who loved her country and was able to lead with so much love. I feel very lucky that in my lifetime we have had a Monarch who managed to balance great leadership, tradition and progression. I would like to send my respects to her family during this time.

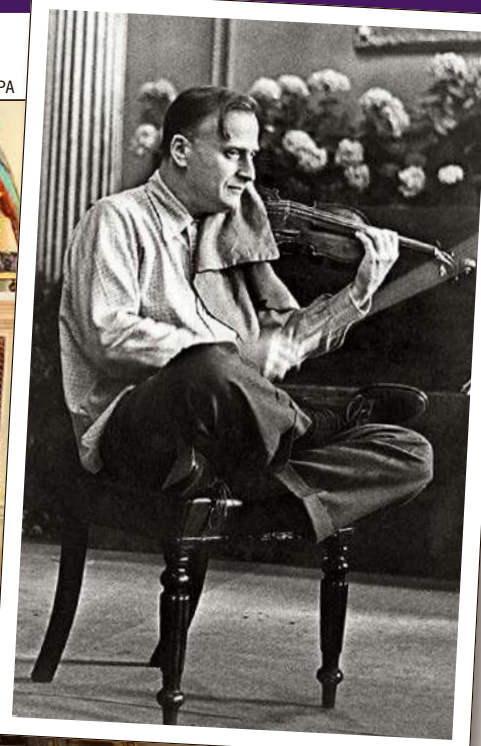
SORROWFUL: Simon Cowell



ACCOLADE: Dolly Parton



LAUGHTER: The Queen presents Nicola Benedetti with the Queen's Medal for Music at an audience at Buckingham Palace. Inset, Yehudi Menuhin



Stars recall fabulous, giggling force for good

By Dominik Lemanski

FAMOUS faces from around the world paid tribute to the Queen last night, describing her as having a "fabulous sense of humour" and being a "force for good".

The Beatles legend Sir Paul McCartney led the accolades, saying he felt "privileged" to have been alive during the entirety of the Queen's reign, as he shared decades of intimate memories with the head of state that came "flooding back".

Writing on his website, he recalled his multiple interactions with the Queen, the first of which came in 1965, and the last in 2018, when he had made her "giggle".

The 80-year-old star recounted The Beatles performing for the Queen at the Royal Variety Performance in 1963. But it was not until two years later, when the Queen awarded each of The Beatles an MBE, that they had their first encounter.

Sir Paul said: "We were told how to approach Her Majesty and not to talk to her unless she talks to us. For four Liverpool lads, it was, 'Wow, hey man'."

He went on to meet the Queen several times over the years, including being given the opportunity to "rock out" in the Queen's garden first to celebrate her Golden Jubilee in 2002 and again for her Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

Sir Paul praised the monarch's "fabulous sense of humour" when he recalled their



TRIBUTE: Lord Andrew Lloyd-Webber

final meeting in 2018. "Because of my respect and love for the Queen and her fabulous sense of humour when I was given the Companion of Honour medal I shook her hand, leaned in and said, 'We have got to stop meeting like this', to which she giggled slightly and got on with the ceremony."

"I did wonder if I was a bit too cheeky after saying this, after all this was the Queen, but I have a feeling she didn't mind." Grammy award-winning

violinist Nicola Benedetti, 35, revealed how the Queen told her she had a giggling fit as a young girl during a private performance by world-famous violinist Yehudi Menuhin.

The virtuoso was playing for her and sister Princess Margaret when they were children. But he was breathing so heavily the young royals struggled to contain their laughter.

Scots-born Nicola said: "I think many of us wish we had an ounce of her grace, humility, consistency, reliability and stoicism." Composer Lord Andrew Lloyd-Webber said he "diverted" his journey to lay flowers outside Buckingham Palace to pay his respects to the Queen on Thursday.

The 74-year-old said: "I just thought it was absolutely the right thing to do."

"She was the most extraordinary person and we will never see the like again."

Other British celebrities who paid tribute included Dame Joanna Lumley, Sir Rod Stewart, the rock band Queen, Police frontman Sting, music mogul Simon Cowell, Sir Mick Jagger, Sir Elton John and Dame Helen Mirren.

Dolly Parton, 76, led tributes from US artists, saying she had the "honour" of performing for and meeting the Queen, praising her "grace and strength".

Diana Ross, Dionne Warwick, Barbra Streisand, Sir Mo Farah and Daniel Craig also paid their respects.



GOD SAVE THE KING: CHARLES III

Consort who has earned her new role

Picture: HUGO BURNAND/GETTY IMAGES



TOGETHER AT LAST: Charles and Camilla at their wedding in 2005 and, inset, Camilla, left, as a child with sister Annabel



SHE has travelled from commoner to Queen. Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall and now the Queen Consort, has been married to King Charles for the past 17 years and he paid tribute to her in his first address as monarch on Friday.

Those who know her well speak of her wit, warmth and down-to-earth attitude – as well as her love of her family and her devotion to the King.

She was born Camilla Rosemary Shand on July 17, 1947, at King's College Hospital London, the daughter of war hero Major Bruce Middleton Hope Shand and Rosalind Maud Shand, daughter of the 3rd Baron Ashcombe.

She has a sister, Annabel Elliot, and had a brother, Mark Shand, a conservationist, who died in April 2014.

She was brought up in East Sussex where Major Shand was Vice Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex and Master of the South Downs Hounds for 19 years. He died in 2006, aged 89.

Camilla watched both her mother and her grandmother, Sonia, suffer the crippling bone disease osteoporosis and her experience prompted her to become patron of the National Osteoporosis Society in 1997 and president in 2001.

She was first educated at Dumbrells School in Sussex, and then at Queen's Gate School in South Kensington.

She also attended Mon Fertile finishing school in Switzerland and studied French and French literature in Paris.

After coming out as a debutante in London in 1965, she worked as a secretary and receptionist in Mayfair.

Camilla met Charles on a Windsor polo field and he is said to have "lost his heart" to her almost at once. But because of his Royal Navy duties, he

By **Tony Whitfield**

was often away and in 1975 Camilla married cavalry officer Andrew Parker Bowles whom she already knew, but they divorced in 1995. They have two children, Tom Parker Bowles and Laura Lopes, and five grandchildren.

Camilla finally married Charles in 2005 and in the years since then has become patron or president of more than 90 charities.

She has long campaigned on the issue of domestic abuse and sexual violence, visiting referral centres and meeting survivors. She is also president of Barnardo's. And she has championed literacy, becoming patron of a number of related organisations. In 2021 she launched her own online book club on Instagram as a hub for literature fans during the pandemic.

She enjoys gardening and walking with Charles, as well as, apparently, bee keeping and cross-country skiing. Both she and the prince paint and draw, and share the same sense of humour.

She has weathered tough times as her affair with Charles during his marriage to Diana, Princess of Wales sparked huge criticism. But Camilla will now be by the King's side after winning over both the public and the late Queen.

The Queen made her a Privy Counsellor in 2016 and announced in her Platinum Jubilee message that she wanted Camilla to be Queen Consort in gratitude for her loyal service.

'She has had tough times'

'The Queen wanted him to have this reception'



FAMILY: The Queen, Philip, Charles and Anne in 1951

FROM the very moment he was born – at 9.14pm in Buckingham Palace on November 14, 1948 – King Charles III was destined to reign.

Unlike the Queen, who was unexpectedly thrust into her role at the age of just 25, he has spent his life in preparation to become the monarch.

Yesterday, as Charles was formally proclaimed King at a historic ceremony televised for the first time at St James's Palace, the world finally saw His Majesty follow in the formidable footsteps of Her Majesty.

And it was as apparent as it was when he delivered his heartfelt address to the nation on Friday night that he has learnt much from the iconic monarch

By **Mike Parker** and **Tony Whitfield**

he will forever know as "my darling Mama".

As his friend, former Tory minister Sir Nicholas Soames so succinctly put it: "Each sovereign is their own person and he will be his own person. But he's served a very long apprenticeship at the feet of an absolute master."

Almost by instinct, Britain's new King walked across to a small group of the thousands of people expressing their love for his mother outside the gates of Buckingham Palace when he arrived back there from Balmoral; reaching out to mourners and well-wishers and offering words of comfort to his new subjects.

There has been an outpouring of

affection for the new King, who has not shied away from openly showing his emotions in recent days. He said to one well-wisher: "I've been dreading this."

Charles had barely turned three when his mother ascended the throne in 1952 following the death of her father, King George VI.

A shy boy, he became Prince of Wales in 1958 at the age of 10 – though his investiture was not held until July 1969 – and he grew into the role.

Daily Express columnist Virginia Blackburn said his mother would be delighted at how Britain and the world have greeted King Charles III.

"This was the reception for her son that the Queen would have wanted. Long live the King!"

Nick Ferrari

Her Majesty remains Elizabeth the Great!

NONE OF US can live forever. We all know that. But if there was ever anyone who we might have believed could do it, that person would have been Queen Elizabeth. Last week proved that even someone who ascended the throne when Josef Stalin was still in power in Russia, and steered a nation and its people through everything from the Cold War and Concorde to Covid, was human after all.

In the thousand-plus years of the monarchy, there can never have been a time of more rapid change than this second Elizabethan age.

When the Queen came to the throne in 1952, the nation was emerging from rationing and austerity. The Empire was in decline and the Commonwealth just starting out. There was no such thing as the internet, indeed many homes didn't even have a phone and some were on "shared lines".

A camera was mostly something called a "Box Brownie", which needed film in a yellow silver foil packet, and that in turn had to be wound on by hand for each snap. Now we have phones that contain cameras many million times better and more efficient than most ordinary cameras.

The advances in so many areas just kept on coming – and somehow the Queen stayed up to speed throughout her reign.

Whether she actually APPROVED of the bewildering pace of change is something she never let slip, and that is surely part of her magic, although it is difficult to imagine her sitting down to the Love Island final and sending friends her verdict via WhatsApp.

To fully appreciate her level of service and duty, the numbers tell the story.

In 70 years, the Queen conducted more than 30,000 public engagements, visited 110 countries, met with 15 British prime ministers, 13 US presidents and was patron of over 600 charities. Her first PM (Winston Churchill) was born in 1874 and took part in the Battle of Omdurman. Her last (Liz Truss) was born in 1975.

All the work of one woman. The unique woman who was Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, Elizabeth II. And it was duty to the last, meeting new PM Liz Truss just days before her unexpected death. It was appropriate perhaps that Ms Truss was the first prime minister to share the Queen's first name!

While she undoubtedly looked frail, and had severe bruising to her hands, we felt confident she would be looking forward to her weekly audiences with her 15th prime minister for at least some time to come. And seeing as the country has only had 56 of those, that record was equally impressive.

How ironic that the significance of the "Queen of England", as she is known around the rest of the world, was to grow to unparalleled global significance at a time when the Empire over which she would once have



Picture: MICHAEL GARNETT

FOND FAREWELL: The Queen devoted her life to serving country and Commonwealth

ruled was being quietly dismantled. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said her death was "an irreparable loss". French President Emmanuel Macron hailed her "a friend of France" and US President Joe Biden was among the first to sign the book of condolences at the British Embassy and ordered flags to fly at half mast on all federal buildings.

CAN YOU, even for a moment, think of any other monarch in the world who would command such a level of respect? All this was achieved with an iron will to act out of decency and dignity to everyone she met.

Whether it was the little girl presenting her with flowers at the opening of a local hospital, or a president or prince, she possessed

the fantastic ability to put all at ease. That is what, in part, lies behind the huge outpouring of love and respect we are witnessing across the country, from the roads outside Balmoral in Scotland, to Windsor Castle and the gates of Buckingham Palace.

Study those crowds and you see a reflection of modern Britain. Old and young, probably Left and Right and certainly richly diverse, they all want to pay their respects.

It is almost akin to a death in the family – indeed as most of us have only ever known one monarch, learnt to sing the words to God Save The Queen, used money bearing her image and sent mail stamped with her likeness through postboxes bearing her crest, it almost is one of the family.

Her incredible loyalty to us is being repaid as it should, and by countless thousands who had never met, and were unlikely to ever

meet her. Hers, though, was the family that has seen the nation through its darkest times.

Her Majesty's parents helped steer the country through the Second World War and defined the defiant spirit of that time.

And on this Queen's "watch" she has seen the nation over which she reigns join and then leave the EU, and witnessed the bloodshed of the Northern Ireland Troubles until a peace, of sorts, was reached.

She has seen financial boom and bust, and boom again. She has watched the world try to combat international terrorism, the dismantling of the Berlin Wall, the nuclear arms race, victory over Soviet Union-led Communism, the growing clamour on the fear of a dying planet, and the emergence of China as a superpower.

When other family members erred and made crass misjudgments that must have left her on the edge of apoplexy, she was unfailingly sure-footed. Whether it was her address after the death of Princess Diana when she reminded us all she was "a grandmother" or her stirring "We'll meet again" speech during the pandemic, she was always on point.

IT CAN ONLY be hoped that King Charles III enjoys the same inherent grace and timing, but as he's served a considerable "apprenticeship" there does seem every reason to believe that could be the case. When Prince Philip, her "strength and stay" and husband of 73 years died, many feared she might retreat from public life. It would have been understandable, but potentially regrettable. After a suitable period of mourning, though, she was back in the public eye. Duty, duty, duty being that permanent mantra.

But now is not the time to look forward to the days of a new king, rather to absorb and reflect on what has now passed.

As Boris Johnson said in a tribute that ranks as one of the finest given: "Relentless though her diary must have felt, she never once let it show, and to tens of thousands of events – great and small – she brought her smile and her warmth and her gentle humour – and for an unrivalled 70 years she spread that magic around her kingdom."

After such faultless service, it was a blessing the Queen survived to her Platinum Jubilee this summer. But if you cast your mind back to those happier times, her appearance with Paddington Bear becomes even more striking. As she, quite brilliantly, delivers her lines about marmalade sandwiches, her eyes are twinkling and the smile that lit up any and every room was as bright as ever. But in a matter of just weeks, they were both to be extinguished.

While she might have reigned for more than 70 years, I sense it will take considerably longer to realise just what we have lost.

She was, and will always remain, Elizabeth the Great.


QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 - 2022

A fitting farewell to a

By Richard Palmer

ROYAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Queen's state funeral will take place at Westminster Abbey on Monday, September 19, at 11am, it was confirmed yesterday.

King Charles has approved an order that the day of Britain's first state funeral since the death of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965 will be a bank holiday.

The funeral, preceded by four days of lying in state at Westminster Hall and followed by a procession to Wellington Arch and a journey to St George's Chapel, Windsor, for a committal service, will be the culmination of 11 days of pomp and ceremony and national mourning witnessed by millions across the UK.

England's most senior peer, the Duke of Norfolk, who as Earl Marshal has the hereditary responsibilities for overseeing the funeral arrangements, said he and others involved in organising the funeral hoped to repay the nation's debt to the late Queen by fulfilling her wishes.

She had approved every detail of the plans.

"We will carry out our duty over the coming days with the heaviest of hearts," he said. "But also, with the firmest of resolve to ensure a fitting farewell to one of the defining figures of our times – a monarch whom we were truly privileged to have had as the head of state of our country and the realms, and head of the wider Commonwealth."

The late Queen, whose body was last night lying in an oak coffin – covered by the Royal Standard of Scotland and flowers – in the ballroom at Balmoral Castle, will begin her final journey this morning. Her coffin will be taken by road from Balmoral to the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh on a six-hour, 175-mile journey by hearse via Aberdeen to allow mourners gathered in towns and villages along the route to pay their respects.

Tomorrow the King and Queen Consort will travel to Edinburgh to join a procession including the King's siblings and their spouses, when the coffin will be taken from Holyroodhouse down the Royal Mile to St Giles's Cathedral in Edinburgh, where it will lie at rest until Tuesday to allow the Scottish public to pay their respects before being taken by air by RAF plane to London.

Princess Anne's husband, Vice Admiral Tim Laurence, will walk behind the late Queen's children in the coffin procession while the Countess of Wessex and the Queen Consort will travel by car.

The Princess Royal will accompany the coffin on the flight down to London, where the Queen will lie in state for four days in Westminster Hall, from Wednesday until 6.30am on the morning of her funeral, a senior palace official said.

Thousands of people will be able to file past to see the late monarch's coffin – and further details of how the public can attend will be announced soon.

A spokesman for the King said the monarch's main focus will be leading the Royal Family and nation in mourning over the coming days. "Whilst the King will carry



Solemn... Officers from the Household Cavalry stand in vigil at the coffin of the Queen Mother at Westminster Hall in 2002. The gun salute at the Tower of London, right, to mark the formal declaration of King Charles III as the new monarch



out all the necessary state duties, his main focus will be leading the Royal Family, the nation, the realms and the Commonwealth in mourning Her Majesty the Queen. This will include meeting members of the public, to share in their grief," the spokesman said.

As expected, however, he will tour the United Kingdom to meet political leaders and take part in ceremonies and services

remembering his mother. Today he will meet the Commonwealth Secretary General Baroness Scotland at Buckingham Palace. The King will then host realm high commissioners and their spouses in the Bow Room at Buckingham Palace. Tomorrow he and the Queen Consort will travel to Westminster Hall where both Houses of Parliament will meet to express their con-

dolences at the demise of the Queen. The King will make his reply.

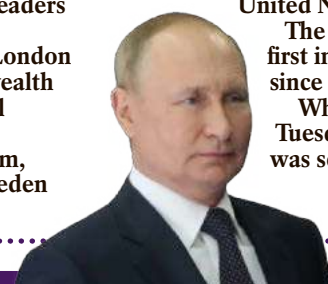
They will then fly to Edinburgh. After staying there overnight, they will fly to Belfast on Tuesday, going on to the monarch's official residence in Northern Ireland, Hillsborough Castle, to see an exhibition about the late Queen's long association with the country before meeting politi-

Leaders vow to clear their diaries for the funeral

HE may have paid a generous tribute to King Charles but it is unlikely that Vladimir Putin will be invited to the funeral of Queen Elizabeth.

Nevertheless, the 2,000-strong guest list drawn up will include leaders from around the globe.

The state funeral in London will include Commonwealth heads of state and royal families from countries including Spain, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Holland. Already,


By Marco Giannangeli

some premiers have expressed their decision to attend. This is despite the date – September 19 – clashing with the United Nations General Assembly.

The New York summit was to be the first in-person gathering of leaders since the pandemic began in 2020.

While the 77th UNGA begins on Tuesday, the high-level general debate was scheduled for Tuesday, September

NOT GOING: Vladimir Putin

beloved monarch

Pictures: GETTY; REX/SHUTTERSTOCK



King to address Lords and MPs at Westminster in historic hall

By **Jonathan Walker**
DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR

KING Charles is to address MPs and Lords in Parliament tomorrow.

The King and Queen Consort, Camilla, will hear speeches from Commons Speaker Sir Lindsay Hoyle and Lord Speaker Baron McFall of Alcluith, before responding with his first address in Westminster Hall.

The hall, built in 1097, is one of the few areas of Parliament large enough to seat both Lords and members of the House of Commons.

The Queen spoke there many times, and it has also seen speeches from former US president Barack Obama, former South African president Nelson Mandela and Pope Benedict XVI.

Charles will then fly to Edinburgh with Camilla and Prime Minister Liz Truss to attend a Service of Prayer and reflection for the life of the Queen at St Giles' Cathedral.

The King and Queen Consort will visit Belfast on Tuesday and on Wednesday Charles will be in London to lead the procession behind the Gun Carriage carrying Her Majesty's coffin



HALL SPEECH: Sir Lindsay Hoyle

to Westminster Hall.

On Friday the royal couple will visit Wales.

Yesterday, Sir Lindsay became the first MP to swear allegiance to the King at a special Saturday session of the Commons.

A small number of senior politicians also took the oath, including Ms Truss and Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer, Liberal Democrat leader Sir Ed Davey and SNP Westminster leader Ian Blackford.

Liz Saville Roberts, Plaid Cymru's leader at Westminster, delivered her oath in English and in Welsh.

Preparations for the funeral on September 19 are being overseen by Nadhim Zahawi, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

He is chairing daily meetings with fellow Cabinet ministers such as the Home Secretary, senior police officers and officials from the royal household.

Meanwhile, the Government has insisted the energy bill freeze announced by Ms Truss on Thursday, hours before the Queen's death, will go ahead on October 1.

A tax-cutting Budget is likely to take place on Wednesday, September 21, once the official period of mourning is over.

six estate gamekeepers who will carry the Queen's coffin from the small dining room at Balmoral into a hearse at the entrance portico at 10am today before it begins its slow journey to Edinburgh.

While the King and his family focus on the plans for the next few days, aides have admitted there are many unanswered questions about what happens next.

Palace officials continue to refer to the King's wife as the Queen Consort, whereas previous women in the role have been simply known as the Queen. A spokesman for the King could not say last night whether she will continue to be known as Queen Consort or if that will change.

Similarly he was unable to say whether Prince Harry and Meghan's children, Archie, three, and Lilibet, one, will now be given the style of HRH and title of Prince and Princess, as is usually the right of grandchildren of the monarch.

When Archie was born, royal aides said that the Duke and Duchess of Sussex had decided they did not want royal titles for their children, who will never be expected to be working members of the family.

But later in her infamous television interview with Oprah Winfrey, Meghan suggested that Archie had been denied a royal title and also suggested it was because of his mixed-race origins.

A spokesman for the King said the Royal Household had been able to update the line of succession on the royal website and the King had announced that William and Kate would become Prince and Princess of Wales.

But he was unable to say if there would be further updates about Archie and Lilibet's status.

He said the King, in his televised address to the nation had expressed his love for Harry and Meghan but added: "Updating love on a website doesn't quite work."

● **WESTMINSTER** Hall, the only surviving part of the original Palace of Westminster, was last night being prepared for the Queen's lying in state.

The hall, built by the Normans in 1097, was closed to MPs and members of the House of Lords, with police officers guarding the entrances.

Scaffolding surrounded the main doorway to be used by the hundreds of thousands of people who are expected to pay their respects to the late Queen, as a team of workmen constructed a temporary walkway to keep people safe and protect the historic building.

cal leaders and attending a service of prayer and reflection at St Anne's Cathedral.

On Wednesday at Buckingham Palace the Queen's coffin will be adorned with the Imperial State Crown and a wreath and at 2.22pm it will be taken in procession on a gun carriage of The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery to the Palace of Westminster.

The King and Queen and other members

of the Royal Family will follow the gun carriage on foot through the streets of central London, walking down The Mall, through Horse Guards, down Whitehall to Parliament. The royal couple will travel to Wales on Friday. Later this week palace officials intend to release more details about the funeral. Dozens of royal aides and staff will take part in the ceremonies, including

attend. The Kremlin sent a message of condolence: "For many decades Elizabeth II rightfully enjoyed her subjects' love and respect as well as authority on the world stage. Russians respected her for her wisdom."

But it went on to confirm that Putin's attendance "is not being considered".

Those who do attend will find themselves at the centre of a ring of steel, with SAS and police security stretching from London to Windsor, and an enforced air corridor restricting flights throughout the service.

20, leaving foreign ministries around the world facing a scheduling nightmare.

They include US President Joe Biden who confirmed he would attend the funeral: "I don't know what the details are yet, but I will be going."

New Zealand's PM Jacinda Ardern last night said she would be travelling to London too: "I will prioritise, along with the Governor-General, doing our duty representing New Zealand and passing on the condolences of our whole nation."

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has also signalled his intention to



QUEEN ELIZABETH II: 1926 - 2022



MAIL SHOTS: Stamps issued by the Royal Mail for this year's Platinum Jubilee, showing aspects of the Queen's work throughout her reign

THE SUNDAY ESSAY

By Leo McKinstry

IT IS A testament to the Queen's magnificent legacy that the British Crown has never looked more secure than it does today. The end of such a long reign could have been a moment for uncertainty for the institution, feeding demands for change, even abolition. Yet the period of mourning since Her Majesty's death has proved how strong the roots of the constitutional monarchy really are.

Republicanism is almost invisible as a cause. Contrary to doubts or equivocation, the start of the new reign has been greeted with acclaim, epitomised by the crowds that cheered Charles III outside Buckingham Palace on Friday.

Shortly after that uplifting experience, the King had his first audience with his new Prime Minister Liz Truss, another milestone that emphasised the enduring continuity of Parliamentary governance through the Crown. This was followed by his superb, profoundly

'He gave deep reassurance at a time of sorrow'

moving broadcast to the nation, which paid a fulsome tribute to his mother along with a pledge to be guided by her example. "That promise of lifelong service, I renew today," he declared.

Full of warmth, sensitivity, resolution and generosity of spirit, Charles showed the qualities that will make him a fine king. "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," wrote Shakespeare in Henry IV part 2. But there is nothing uneasy about this triumphant success, which has provided deep reassurance at a time of sorrow.

The resilience of the monarchy is all the more remarkable, given that, theoretically at least, it would seem to be out of tune with the values of our times. We live in an age where deference towards authority has collapsed, where our historic traditions are under attack from modernising critics, where the very concept of nationhood is under threat from aggressive identity politics, and where public figures are tossed about by the storms of changeable opinion.

In the past six years, for example, we have had four different prime ministers. That sense of volatility has been made all the more intense by the dominance of a raucous social media, which helps to create an online atmosphere of permanent conflict and turmoil.

At the same time, the hereditary principle on which the Crown is based would appear at variance with our spirit of democracy. In a culture of equal opportunities, with its noisy opposition to



privilege, status is not meant to depend on an accident of birth.

Despite such a potentially hostile backdrop, the constitutional monarchy continues to flourish. That is in part because the system works so well, serving not only as a bulwark of stability above the party strife but also as a vehicle for solidarity and unity. With its history stretching back more than a thousand years, the Crown both binds our society and encapsulates our sense of Britishness. Indeed, all the pomp and ceremony that go with the monarchy are a profound source of national pride.

As proven by the events to mark the Queen's passing and the advent of a new reign, no one does ritual like the British. The beautiful liturgy of the thanksgiving service at St Paul's Cathedral on Friday night was matched by the stirring military precision of the 96-gun salutes across the country the same day, just as the heart was

stirred by the formal declaration of Charles III as King at a meeting of the ancient Accession Council, originally an Anglo-Saxon assembly, in historic St James's Palace, followed by a public announcement by the Garter King of Arms, accompanied by a trumpet fanfare.

But on another level, monarchy still works because of the character of its recent, dutiful incumbents. Britain has had bad or inadequate monarchs in the past. Some were recklessly extravagant, like George IV. Some were hopelessly incompetent, such as King John. Some were tyrannical, like Henry VIII. One, George III, went insane, while Queen Victoria, for all her longevity, was neglectful of her duties and politically partisan.

Queen Elizabeth was of an entirely different character, which is why her death inspired such a tidal wave of tributes. So many emphasised her dedication, self-sacrifice, wisdom and shrewdness.

It is astonishing that she spent all her adult life in the glare of publicity, yet never once made an error, generated a major controversy, or complained about her burden. On the eve of her coronation in 1953, broadcaster Richard Dimbleby said "no more devoted or coura-

'Monarchy is the lasting strength of Britain'

geous a person could carry the monarchy, which is the lasting strength of Britain and the wonder and envy of the world."

The correctness of that verdict was reinforced over the subsequent seven decades of unstinting service, during which the Queen carried out no fewer than 21,000 engagements, made more than

Pictures: EDDIE MULLHOLLAND/GETTY IMAGES, YUI MOK/GETTY IMAGES, OWEN HUMPHREYS/PA



PAYING TRIBUTE: A well-wisher kisses the King's hand as he greets crowds at Buckingham Palace on Friday and mourners, right, lay flowers outside Balmoral



Her Majesty has left the Crown secure... the new reign of Charles is met with acclaim

150 foreign visits, was patron of more than 500 charities, signed more than 4,000 pieces of legislation, hosted at least 1.5 million guests at Buckingham Palace garden parties and often met more than 50,000 people each year.

As King Charles said in his broadcast, she adhered strictly to constitutional principles, highlighted in her good working relationships with all her prime ministers, but precisely because of her restraint, when she intervened, the impact was all the more effective.

That was never more true than in the Northern Irish peace process, which she helped cement through her successful state visit to Ireland in 2011 and her historic handshake with Republican leader Martin McGuinness in 2012. Similarly, her attachment to the Commonwealth ensured that the end of the British Empire was largely a cordial process.

Through crises, recessions and

wars, she was a rock of stability. When the Silver Jubilee was held in 1977, there was widespread anxiety that it would be a flop because of economic troubles and worsening industrial discontent. But, much to the delight of patriotic Labour prime minister Jim Callaghan, it turned out to be a huge success, an indicator of the admiration for the Queen.

The same bedrock of profound respect meant that she pulled through the two darkest episodes of her reign: the annus horribilis in 1992, caused by divorces in her family and the Great Fire of Windsor; and the maelstrom of raw emotion that swept through Britain after the death of Princess Diana in 1997. Even in her own death, she was a force for harmony. Out of respect for her memory, the militant trade unions have called off their strikes on the railways and in the Royal Mail.

In February 1952, when the

prime minister Winston Churchill received the news of King George VI's death, he expressed his forebodings about the inexperience of the new young Queen. With tears in his eyes, he told his secretary: "I hardly know her, and she's only a child." As he quickly learnt, those misgivings were unfounded.

But there can be no doubts about the accumulated wisdom, experience and knowledge that King Charles brings to his new role. At the age of 73, having been Prince of Wales since 1958, he is by far the oldest monarch to ascend to the throne. And even before his first highly successful walkabout outside the Palace and his impressive broadcast, both of which showed his ability to connect with the public, his capacity to do the job of King was clear. This is a man of deep intelligence and insight, whose long record of service is epitomised by his work in leading the Prince's Trust, one

of the most innovative and successful charities in modern Britain.

As Prince, his occasional interventions in the fields of architecture, the environment, urban deprivation, and agriculture have sometimes landed him in trouble, yet they generally turned out to

'Even in death she was a force for harmony'

be justified. In fact his beliefs in the benefits of organic production, the dangers of climate change and the ugliness of concrete sprawls have been astonishingly prescient. If modern developments had been constructed with the same elegance that characterised his project at Poundbury in Dorset, our country would be a more beautiful

place and there would be far less antagonism to new building.

As King, he will have less freedom to pursue his passions. "I do realise it is a separate exercise to be sovereign," he said recently. But, as in Poundbury, his instincts have been a force for good.

Contented in his personal life with the Queen Consort, Camilla, at his side and with the line of succession secure through the Prince of Wales, our new King can look at the future with confidence.

His accession has come about only through a hard personal loss, "the moment I have been dreading", as he put it to the new Prime Minister Liz Truss in his first audience with her on Friday, but after all the waiting and tribulations he has been through, he must have a sense of fulfilment. By becoming King, he has fulfilled his destiny.

A great light went out in our lives last week. But another is now illuminated, and long may it shine.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

Voters back PM's blitz

Liz urged to tackle Civil Service Sir Humphreys

By **David Williamson**

LIZ TRUSS has been urged to take on the alleged anti-Tory "blob" at the heart of Whitehall if she wants to drive through her policies.

There are concerns that foot-dragging civil servants are "holding this country back" with "unrestrained Left-wing resistance" to Conservative plans.

Tensions were exposed last week when the Foreign Office Twitter account "liked" a post by Labour MP Zarah Sultana, which described former home secretary Priti Patel as "unspeakably cruel".

Ms Patel said: "This demonstrates the huge resistance I have encountered from the Foreign Office in my efforts to deliver what people of Britain voted for."

An ally of Ms Truss said it reflected the "sheer obstruction" Ms Patel faced, though the Foreign Office insisted it was a "genuine mistake" by a member of staff.

But the ally said the Foreign Office had "fought at every turn to overturn" the Rwanda migrant policy. There are calls for Ms Truss to challenge the "Sir Humphreys" – named after the obstructionist mandarin in sitcom *Yes Minister*.

Joining these calls, a former minister said: "The underperforming 'blob' within Whitehall is what is really holding this country back. "We should introduce an annual reshuffle of permanent secretaries [and] make the honours system far more performance-driven."

A prominent Tory backbencher fears efforts to derail policy will intensify, saying: "If they think they are going to get rid of us at the next election it's only going to get worse, isn't it?"

Toby Young, founder of the Free Speech Union, said: "Permanent secretaries are a law unto themselves, pursuing their own woke agenda... the solution is to make senior civil servants political appointees, as in America."

Tory MP Craig Mackinlay said: "Influences to resist change have prevailed with insufficient Brexit dividends realised... The Truss administration [could] bring fresh thinking to bear across embedded long-term problems."

However, an ex-minister said it was "difficult to point to Left-wing resistance," adding it was "more a problem with risk-aversion and attachment to the status quo". The First Division Association, the Civil Service union, declined to comment.

Two-thirds welcome bills bailout but experts fear it could cost £100bn

By **David Williamson**

POLITICAL EDITOR

THE new Prime Minister's bold plan to cap energy bills has been met with strong public support.

Exclusive polling shows voters have welcomed Liz Truss's intervention in the cost-of-living crisis.

Her swift action means the typical household should pay no more than £2,500 annually for the next two years.

Pollsters Redfield and Wilton Strategies found nearly 65 per cent backed pegging bills at this level.

Some 27 per cent said they "strongly" supported the move.

A mere seven per cent opposed the deal to stop rocketing energy costs forcing households into fuel poverty.

It was feared that unless action was taken, average energy bills could hit £6,600 in the spring.

The polling also revealed significant support for the Government's plan to suspend green levies, which push up bills by around £150 a year.

Some 49 per cent said they would back the move, with one in four (21 per cent) "strongly" supporting it.

Just 11 per cent of respondents were opposed to suspending the levies, and around one in five (22 per cent) neither sup-

ported or opposed it. The polling of 1,500 adults was conducted a day before Ms Truss made waves by formally announcing her "energy price guarantee".

No official figure has been given for the cost of the scheme, but the Institute for Fiscal Studies has said it could "easily cost over £100 billion in the next year alone".

However, the Prime Minister has defended the move on the grounds that "extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures".

She argued the plan would give people certainty on their energy bills, curb inflation and boost growth.

Conservative MP Lee Anderson, who won the iconic red wall seat of Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, from Labour in 2019, said the country faced a "national emergency".

He said that Ms Truss's move would give people confidence they could afford fuel bills during the winter months.

Admitting the increase in costs remained "staggering", he added his hope that the announcement would give people "peace of mind".

However, one senior Tory MP admitted: "I do have real concerns over the cost of this. It's enormous."

"Having spoken about the free market throughout the entire leadership election, the first thing we've done is to deliver something actually to the left of what Labour was planning."

"I understand the political imperative, but at the same time I think we are in real difficulties when it comes to the public finances. Will people have to pay in the years to come?"

"It just seems as if we are lurching from one very expensive situation to another and I don't know how much we can afford."

The strong public support will be welcomed by Downing Street. It comes in the wake of attacks on the policy from both the left and the right.

The right-leaning Institute of Economic Affairs – long seen as one of the most influential think tanks on Conservative policy – described the deal as "middle class welfare on steroids". It predicted it would lead to "future taxpayers subsidising hot tubs".

Meanwhile, anti-poverty charity the Joseph Rowntree



Boris back as Downing

BORIS Johnson is to make a comeback in Downing Street.

But new Prime Minister Liz Truss has no cause to fear her former boss will be seeking to reclaim his place at No 10.

There is speculation this new image of Mr Johnson by award-winning photographer Andrew Parsons will shortly appear on the grand staircase. This centrepiece of the First Lord of the Treasury's official residence is lined with pictures of past occupants in chronological order.

Historian Simon Schama has referred to this collection of engravings and portraits as the "ghosts of Downing Street".

By tradition, when a PM departs No 10 the other images are moved down by one for the most recent to appear at the top.

Many of the earlier residents are pictured posing against imperial pillars. But Mr Parsons's photograph captures a relaxed-looking Mr Johnson with a slightly crumpled collar – and in colour, a break from traditional black-and-white shots.

Foundation warned that low income families would still face a "vast gap" of around £800 between increases in the cost of living and the support available.

Meanwhile, the Centre for Policy Studies praised the PM for resisting pressure to bring in

a windfall tax on the profits of energy companies and welcomed the end of the ban on controversial fracking as a step towards ending British dependence on volatile global markets.

In the latest sign that the Truss era is now firmly under way,



RIGHT MOVE: Liz Truss took 'extraordinary' measure after becoming PM



TENSIONS: Joe Biden

Tough Truss 'will not be concerned now about stepping on Biden's toes'

on energy prices



St 'ghost'



COLOURFUL CHARACTER:
Portrait of Boris that could top No 10's grand staircase

Picture exclusive:
ANDREW PARSONS

respondents to the Redfield and Wilton poll poured cold water on the idea that former Prime Minister Boris Johnson could return to frontline politics.

When asked if he could make a political comeback, nearly six out of 10 voters (58 per cent)

said No. Just 27 per cent thought he could.

The survey also found strong support for the UK staying in the European Court of Human Rights, despite widespread controversy in June when an ECHR intervention resulted in

the cancellation of a planned flight to deport asylum seekers to Rwanda to have their claims processed under a flagship Government scheme.

Nearly six out of 10 people (58 per cent) said the UK should remain subject to the

Strasbourg-based court, with just 22 per cent saying it should not.

Only 36 per cent said Britain should be able to ignore the court, with 42 per cent opposed.

Similarly, there was little support for pulling the UK out of the European Convention of Human Rights – the international agreement drafted in the wake of the Second World War that is the basis of rulings by the court.

Only 27 per cent supported withdrawing, while 33 per cent were opposed.

During her leadership campaign, Ms Truss said she would “not cower to the ECHR and its continued efforts to try and control immigration policy”.

Former leadership contender and ex-Attorney General Suella Braverman – made Home Secretary last week – has backed the United Kingdom leaving the court’s jurisdiction.

LIZ Truss will take a “tougher stance” on relations with the US than Boris Johnson, experts said last night, writes *Marco Giannangeli*.

While the “special relationship” between the US and UK remains healthy in military and intelligence terms, tensions have increased over a clash of views concerning Brexit and the Northern Ireland protocol.

Experts last night predicted that the Oval Office’s stance on a free trade deal would remain unchanged.

Nile Gardiner, director of the Washington-based Heritage Foundation’s Margaret Thatcher Centre for Freedom, said: “Joe Biden has deliberately slow-walked the UK-US trade deal. Tensions have been driven by the Biden

administration, which remains very hostile over Brexit and the Northern Ireland protocol.

“Boris Johnson was very risk-averse and he was very careful to avoid clashing with Biden.

“My sense is that Truss is likely to be tougher than Boris on these matters. Her style as foreign secretary was distinctly robust. She doesn’t make concessions.

“She won’t be concerned about stepping on Biden’s toes and she shouldn’t be. Her duty is to stand up for UK interests.”

James Rogers, of the Council on Geostrategy, added: “There is a school of thought that, the longer Truss allows the Northern Ireland Protocol to linger, the more destructive it will become. So we could see a period of maximum pressure from her on this issue.”

Earthquake leaves hole in Stanley's Polo travels

By **Marco Giannangeli**

BORIS Johnson’s father escaped an earthquake that killed dozens of people in China after a Covid outbreak forced him to flee.

Stanley Johnson, *below*, was filming in the ancient city of Chengdu in Sichuan province, when he was told it faced lockdown amid reports of Covid cases.

For the 82-year-old, the news meant temporarily abandoning plans to film a three-part documentary tracing the footsteps of his hero, Venetian explorer Marco Polo.

And just after Mr Johnson and his team left China, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck the region, killing up to 65 people.

Buildings in Chengdu were damaged by tremors.

In the days after the quake, Chinese authorities reportedly refused to allow residents to leave locked down apartment buildings.



“As soon as we left there was an earthquake, so it’s probably just as well that we managed to get out,” Mr Johnson said. Speaking from Cairo, as he headed back to the UK, he explained he and a crew of seven had arrived in China to resume a personal odyssey which he had started more than 60 years ago.

He was only 20 when he and late adventurer Tim Severin, riding 500C Shooting Star motorcycles, made the first leg of their journey from Venice to the Afghan border.

“It was great fun. We were entertained by the mayor of Venice and then rode off through Iran and Afghanistan where we reached the entrance of the Wakhan Corridor, which runs through Afghanistan and into China,” he recalled.

“And so the plan was to resume the journey from Chengdu to Shangdu, which was Xanadu.”

The million-pound production, is being produced by Bath-based One Tribe productions in association with Chinese state television.

Of his ex-PM son, Stanley added: “Had I not been in China I would have been in Downing Street with [daughter] Rachel, waving him off.”

FREEDOM FOR UKRAINE

Picture: EAST2WEST NEWS



FIGHTING BACK: Kyiv soldiers display Ukrainian flag after storming into Kupiansk. A Russian flag lies discarded on ground

Liberators fly flag after retaking city

By **Berny Torre**

UKRAINIAN troops stand proud in the recaptured city of Kupiansk yesterday, holding their national flag high – while a Russian one lies at their feet.

It marks a major breakthrough in the war as troops forced their way through to the strategically important city in the north-eastern Kharkiv region, while the collapsing Russian frontlines continues to fold.

Kyiv's fastest military advance in months has seen Ukrainian police patrolling towns, with boxes of ammunition lying in heaps at positions abandoned by fleeing Russian soldiers.

On reaching Kupiansk, where rail lines linking Russia to the east of the country converge, Ukraine's counteroffensive has now penetrated Moscow's main logistics route.

The capture of at least part of the railway hub potentially leaves thousands of Russian soldiers trapped and cut off from essential supplies.

Moscow has acknowledged that its frontline has buckled in Kharkiv, but has said it is rushing extra troops to reinforce



VIOLENCE: Fighting in Kharkiv region

the area. Natalia Popova, adviser to the head of the Kharkiv regional council, shared photos on Facebook of troops holding up the Ukrainian flag in front of Kupiansk's city hall.

Ukraine's security service confirmed Kyiv had forces inside the city, as well as in Hrakove, one of dozens of villages recaptured from Russian invaders.

President Volodymyr Zelensky said at least 30 settlements had been liberated in the Kharkiv region during the advance of

recent days. The city of Izium, Russia's main stronghold and logistics hub in the north-east of Ukraine, is now becoming increasingly cut off.

The Ukraine Ministry of Defence had earlier reported in an intelligence update: "A Russian force around Izium is likely isolated. Ukrainian units are now threatening the town of Kupiansk."

"Its capture would be a significant blow to Russia because it sits on supply routes to the Donbas frontline."

Mark Hertling, a retired general and former commander of US ground forces in Europe, posted on Twitter: "Make no mistake, Ukraine is executing a brilliant manoeuvre focused on terrain objectives to 'bag' Russians."

"But the Russians are helping them – by doing very little to counter."

Ukraine's advance in the east is by far its most rapid success in months, after a long period in which the war had shifted into a relentless grind along entrenched front lines.

It came just a week after Kyiv announced the start of a long-awaited counter-attack to reclaim Russian-occupied territory.

Brave veteran Vladimir, 98, takes heroic aim at Kremlin

OLIA FREIMUT

Insights from exile...



HE may be the world's bravest pensioner. Vladimir Stepanov, a 98-year-old Russian war veteran, has been protesting against the Kremlin's brutal invasion since the war began.

In a number of YouTube videos he tells Russian leaders: "What have you done? I can't live with this... eight million Ukrainians died during World War II. We were fighting together. Has Ukraine done anything wrong to you?"

The videos have been viewed more than 20,000 times.

Mr Stepanov was detained and given a warning: "Next time your age won't help."

But he returned to Lenin's Square, in Novosibirsk, this time



FEARLESS: Vladimir Stepanov

campaigning for human rights. He sat on a bench and unfolded a poster – it was a lonely protest.

Activist Yana Drobnohod described what happened next.

"The policemen arrived. They rounded up the old man and pushed him into a car."

Footage shows Mr Stepanov talking to policemen kindly, as if they were his grandchildren: "Shame on you, shame on you. Why are you arresting me? The real criminals left unpunished."

He has since said he has no intention of quitting his activism.

It reminds me of an old Russian poet, Korney Chukovskiy.

In his poem *The Monster Cockroach*, the insect becomes a dictator.

Mighty animals, including elephants and bears, surrender to his whim until a humble sparrow flies down and eats him.

It goes: "He's nothing but a brown cockroach!"

"That's the horrid midget's name, 'If you obey him you're to blame!'"

Mr Stepanov is nearly 100 years old and may not sound like a hero. But people like him will become Putin's sparrow.

Matt's still Strictly a daredevil clown

By **Julia Kuttner**

MATT BAKER is to trade his Strictly Come Dancing shoes for a tightrope and a daredevil pantomime performance.

The Countryfile presenter has spent the summer at the family farm honing his skills on a unicycle, doing back flips, and

walking on a wire.

But Matt, 44, admits his fondness for madcap antics prompted his worried wife and children to tell him to slow down and take it a bit easier.

Fortunately the former gymnastics champion will soon have more than just his family to watch him when he shows off his circus skills in a production of Goldilocks and the Three Bears over Christmas.

After starting out presenting on Blue Peter, then The One Show, Matt quickly became one of the most sought after presenters. His stint on Strictly in 2010 alongside pro Aliona Vilani continued to cement his place as a primetime favourite.

When his mum Janice was injured after being trampled by sheep, it meant he had to spend more time looking after the farm in County Durham.

So he turned his hand to producing his own shows.

He now takes centre stage alongside his family in Matt Baker: Our Farm in the Dales on Channel 4.

For Matt, who credits the challenge of Strictly with making him better at his job, performing as Joey the clown at London's Richmond Theatre will be his second panto stint.

"The last one was three years ago and it was Goldilocks at the Palladium. I had such a great time," Matt said.

"It's all this wonderful stuff, because I walk a tightrope. I was a British champion gym-



CHA CHA CHALLENGE: Matt with Aliona on Strictly. Top right, in panto; bottom right, filming on the family farm

Picture: JOHN WRIGHT/BBC

nast when I was younger, so all the acrobatic stuff is something I've always loved.

"And when I was a young lad, actually instead of asking for a mountain bike for Christmas I asked for a unicycle.

"So I was lucky Santa brought me one."

"It will be quite intense. I'm looking forward to getting fit for it, to be honest with you."

He added: "It's quite a good excuse for a 44-year-old man to be riding a unicycle and tightrope walking."

Matt has even got wife Nicola and children Luke, 13, and Molly, 11, involved.

"We've got a tightrope in the garden, so they walk it as well," he said. "My wife too, without question, will have a go on the

tightrope." But it's not without its challenges, admitted Matt.

"As I get older I injure myself more," he said. "I still think I'm like a teenager and I'm always putting my back out."

"I'm still like 'I'm going to do a backflip', and everyone's like 'dad stop!' and my wife says, 'Maybe hold back'."

It was this have-a-go mentality that saw him become a runner-up on Strictly.

"It's hard to believe it was 12 years ago," said Matt. "We watch as a family and you hear that music, and it's like you're there. You never lose it."

● *Goldilocks And The Three Bears, Richmond Theatre, from December 3-31. Visit atgtickets.com/Richmond*

Love thy neighbour? Not any more

NOISE, bad parking and unruly children are among the top reasons we don't get on with our neighbours, writes Jonathan Walker.

Britain has become a less neighbourly place, with more of us complaining about inconsiderate behaviour from the people next door, according to a poll by Ipsos.

Many said relations improved when the nation pulled together during the pandemic.

But more than a quarter now believe that lockdowns made things worse.

Nearly three in five people (58 per cent) feel the country has become less neighbourly over the last 20 years. Noise is

the most common complaint, with 34 per cent saying a neighbour is too loud, while 25 per cent complain of selfish parking and 23 per cent have a problem with a neighbour's general untidiness.

There are some grounds for optimism however. The survey found 18 per cent of the population – nearly one in five – believe Britons are actually more neighbourly than they were 20 years ago.

And we still turn to our neighbours for help when we need it. One in 10 people said they have borrowed milk from the family next door in the past year.

UK spies key to legal fight on hacking

GCHQ spies could be dragged into a legal battle over tech-based evidence used in the country's biggest ever operation to nail organised crime groups, writes Jon Austin.

Lawyers for those charged after probes into the EncroChat encrypted mobile phone system want a chief from GCHQ's National Technical Assistance Centre – which advises law enforcers on lawful interception techniques – to give evidence ahead of trial.

In 2020, Dutch and French police hacked EncroChat, then accessed by about 9,000 people in the UK, including many suspected criminals. The British National Crime

Agency (NCA) used it to secure more than 2,800 arrests and more than 1,500 charges.

Now defendants claim that monitoring real-time messages was a "live intercept", which would mean the evidence was not admissible in UK courts.

The defence wants a GCHQ witness after expert Professor Ross Anderson questioned whether the NCA's account of how data was extracted from phones was plausible.

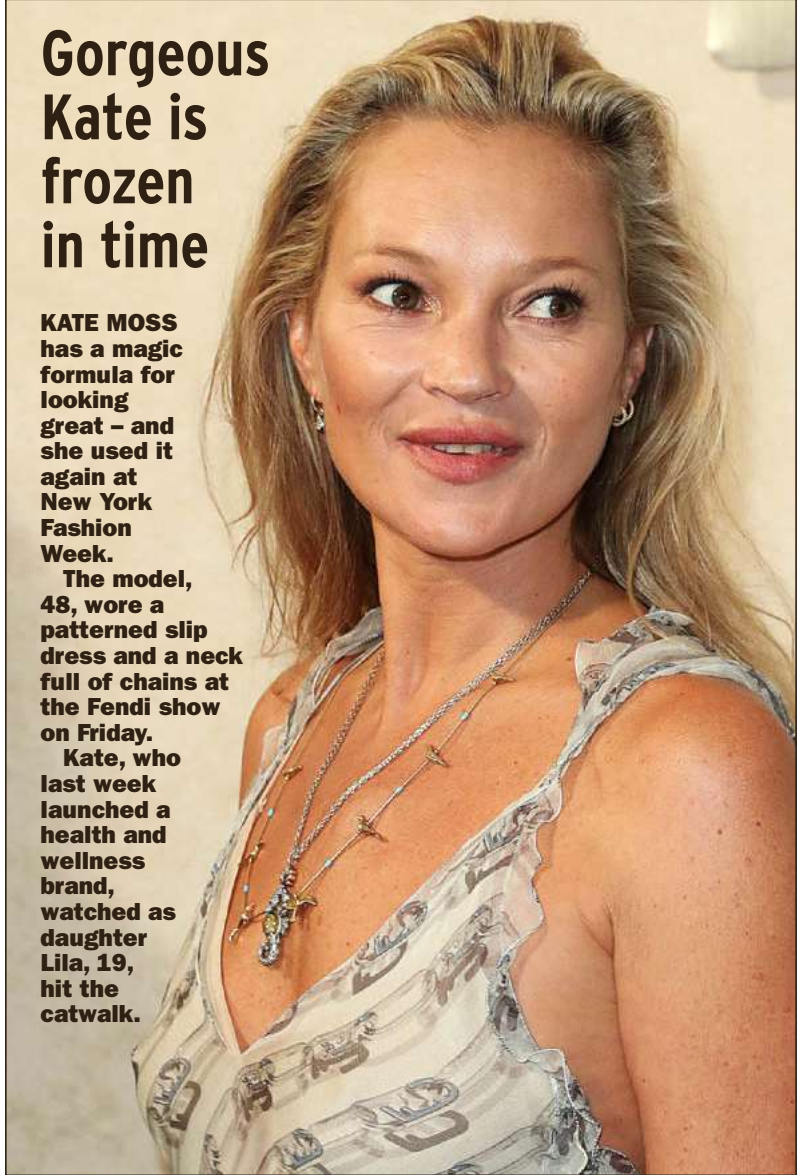
At Manchester Crown Court, Simon Csoka QC also asked that a recording of a prior meeting between Prof Anderson and the NCA be played during a trial.

Gorgeous Kate is frozen in time

KATE MOSS has a magic formula for looking great – and she used it again at New York Fashion Week.

The model, 48, wore a patterned slip dress and a neck full of chains at the Fendi show on Friday.

Kate, who last week launched a health and wellness brand, watched as daughter Lila, 19, hit the catwalk.



Darius killed by drug ‘inhaled to treat neck pain’

POP IDOL heartthrob Darius Campbell Danesh died after he inhaled an anaesthetic drug in what has been ruled a tragic accident.

He suffocated after breathing in ethyl chloride. It is believed he was using the drug to treat chronic neck pain following a car accident.

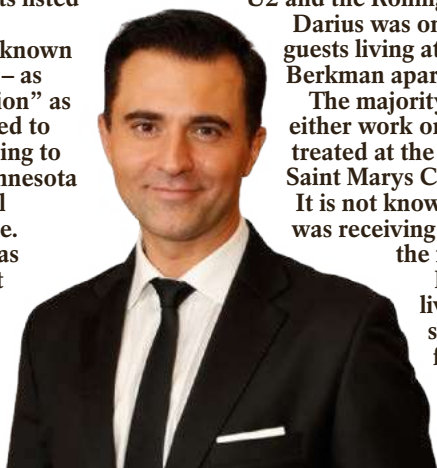
The 41-year-old’s family had been waiting for news of what happened since he was found unresponsive in a US apartment near the Mayo Clinic specialist treatment centre in Rochester, Minnesota, in August.

Autopsy reports listed “toxic effects of chloroethane” – known as ethyl chloride – as well as “suffocation” as having contributed to his death, according to the Southern Minnesota Regional Medical Examiner’s Office.

The tragedy was ruled an accident by the medical examiner.

His family

STAR: Darius Campbell Danesh



By **Mark Branagan**

said Darius was “suffering from chronic neck pain following a car accident in 2010”. They thanked everyone for their “love and kindness” following his death.

The singer made his first bid for fame on ITV show Popstars in 2001 and also appeared on the first Pop Idol, which was won by Will Young. He turned down Simon Cowell’s offer of a record deal and signed with producer Steve Lillywhite, whose credits include U2 and the Rolling Stones.

Darius was one of many guests living at the plush Berkman apartments block.

The majority of residents either work or are being treated at the Mayo Clinic’s Saint Marys Campus.

It is not known if Darius was receiving treatment at the facility.

He had been living in the US since splitting from ex-wife, Canadian actress Natasha Henstridge.

COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS

‘Disconnected, in darkness and in danger’

EXCLUSIVE

By **Lucy Johnston**
HEALTH EDITOR

SICK PEOPLE are ending up in hospital after having their power cut off despite it being essential to their survival, a health boss has warned.

Samantha Allen, chief executive of NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board, is demanding energy firms check their lists of protected vulnerable customers are up to date.

The move comes as separate research shows disabled people are switching off fridges, cancelling carers and have stopped buying medicines as living costs soar.

Last week Ms Allen wrote to Ofgem’s chief executive Jonathan Brearley detailing “serious concerns” that vulnerable people have been “disconnected from their home energy supply” as a result of non payment which has “led to a hospital admission”.

She said: “This is impacting on people who live independently at home, with the support from our community health services team and are reliant on using electric devices for survival.”

It was her understanding that those deemed clinically vulnerable could not be disconnected.

And she urged the regulator to work urgently with firms to ensure patient lists are updated and checked first.

‘Life costs more if you’re disabled’

Meanwhile, research suggests that despite average energy bills being pegged lower by Liz Truss, many of the country’s 14 million disabled people are already unable to cope with inflation and rising costs.

Charity Scope pointed out many disabled people rely on extra energy for equipment and survival such as dialysis machines, hoists, electric wheelchairs, ventilation kit or suction machinery.

Of 1,050 disabled adults surveyed, almost a quarter say their income doesn’t cover their bills.

On Tuesday PM Truss lowered the average price cap to £2,500 from next month. It had been due to hit £3,549. This time last year it was £1,277.

And James Taylor, Scope’s



HEAT OR EAT: Vulnerable people ‘remain at risk’ this winter

director of strategy, said the latest Government measure did not go far enough for many.

He added: “Freezing the price cap at twice the average cost of a year ago is a sticking plaster on the financial pain disabled people are experiencing.”

“The cost of charging a powered wheelchair has doubled in a year. Spiralling costs – energy, fuel, food and inflation – have already left many disabled households in debt and on the brink.”

“Life costs more if you are disabled. This universal approach brings some relief, but disabled people often rely on higher energy use. Remember this cap does not limit what you pay. For many disabled households, bills are still skyrocketing.”

He added: “Personal hygiene and dignity are turning into luxuries many disabled people won’t be able to afford.”

Scope’s survey found 91 per cent are worried about energy bills and half will be struggling financially from October.

Almost half – 45 per cent – will not switch on the heating even when they are cold.

Some 38 per cent will cut back on food and skip meals, and more than 28 per cent say they’ll ease up on showering and bathing.

Others say they are already cancelling personal assistant appointments, skipping medicines and turning off technology.

Rachel Curtis, 40, looks after a disabled daughter and partner, and runs a support group for carers of disabled people in Morpeth, Northumberland. She said: “Lots

of people are very frightened about how they will pay the bills. The money is not there to cover the energy costs.”

“Those people who cannot afford to pay their bills could be forced on to prepayment meters and when they can’t afford those the power will just be cut off. If you are on a breathing machine then you could die.”

Katy Styles, 53, looks after her husband who has motor neurone disease. She said: “The additional money offered by the Government to help vulnerable people with energy costs won’t

‘Extra cash won’t scratch surface’

even scratch the surface.

“This is not just about putting on an extra jumper to stay warm. We have extra energy needs for vital equipment.”

Caroline Abrahams, of Age UK, said central support did not go far enough for pensioners either.

She said: “We have to remember energy prices will still be rising to a level that would have previously been unthinkable.”

An Ofgem spokesman said: “This letter [from Ms Allen] raises a number of serious concerns.”

“We can assure people that protecting consumers is Ofgem’s top priority and we hold suppliers firmly to account on fulfilling their obligations to their customers, especially those living in vulnerable circumstances.”

Picture: DAISYBECK STUDIOS

WARNING: Peter Wright from his days as TV's Yorkshire Vet, right. Below, children take their cockapoo for a walk

Prices fear for women in abusive households

By **Tony Whitfield**

ALMOST three-quarters of women trapped in violent or abusive relationships say the rocketing bills nightmare is making it harder for them to escape, campaigners warn.

Two-thirds said abusers were using rising costs and worries as an excuse to further exert their control and financial hold over them.

In all, some 96 per cent said the crisis has increased the financial hardship they and their children face.

Women's Aid, which carried out the survey, said females in 2022 should not have to remain with abusive partners simply because they are afraid of not being able to provide for themselves or for their children.

The charity has called for the Government to urgently increase the financial support available through an Emergency Domestic Abuse Fund.

It also wants help for organisations like itself, who are facing higher energy and staff costs to continue providing support. The charity's chief executive Farah

SUPPORT: Women's Aid chief executive Farah Nazeer has called for more help for domestic abuse survivors



Nazeer said: "We know that domestic abuse and economic abuse go hand-in-hand, with abusers often controlling every aspect of a woman's life.

"The soaring energy and food costs, coupled with stagnant wages, will leave many women more vulnerable to abuse.

"We are quickly approaching the winter months where the crisis will only get worse.

"Survivors have suffered enough, having been trapped in their homes during Covid. They must be offered the help they need to support their children and to be free from abuse."

A minority of the women who responded to the survey in June still lived with their perpetrator, and 44 per cent still had financial links with them.

But two-thirds said they could not afford to leave because they have less than £200 in savings, it was found.

One respondent said: "I feel like my only option to keep my kids is to go back to the marital home, where he nearly killed me."

Lockdown craze for buying pets comes back to bite owners as bills skyrocket

PEOPLE buying pets en masse during lockdown have sparked an inevitable crisis, a top TV vet has said.

Animals are now being abandoned because owners can no longer afford or have the time to look after them, says Yorkshire Vet star Peter Wright.

He said his "heart sank" when he saw the number of people getting a new pet during the pandemic because his 40 years experience made him realise many would later be given up.

And he "sympathised" with owners now struggling with the cost of living while wanting to do their best for their pets but facing bigger vet bills.

Peter began his career working in the Yorkshire Dales alongside Alf Wight, who used the pen name James Herriot to write the All Creatures Great And Small books, now a Channel 5 series.

He said: "I suppose as you get older, life experiences mould you.

"As soon as lockdown began and I saw what was happening with people taking in puppies in particular my heart sank, because I do feel, maybe not in every case but in lots of cases, people did not consider what was going to happen to those pets when they had to go back to work.

"Of course it was a miserable time for everybody during lockdown and I can see how it happened. But I did feel it was going to be a major issue in the

By **Tony Whitfield**

longer term. That has been borne out now by the rescue centres being inundated having to take pets in, sadly, that are no longer being looked after."

Pet ownership is now more expensive than ever as the cost of living increases continue to bite.

Since he started out, technological advances mean that more complex procedures can be carried out but this comes with bigger vet bills.

Peter said: "I have sympathy with the view that people do struggle to afford vet care in some instances.

"Vets want to offer the best service

they can, and sometimes it's necessary to go down that route. It isn't cheap to keep a pet.

"It's true we are a nation of animal lovers and I do feel people are torn between what they can afford and the fact they want to do the best for their pet," he said.

Yet these advances have also led to higher public expectations of what vets can do, and when pets can't be saved, he is "saddened" owners are quick to take to social media to criticise rather than go in and talk it over in person.

Last week, Environment Minister Steve Double told the Commons: "I'm sure we'd all agree that owning a pet brings additional responsibilities and everyone should consider those responsibilities – including the costs – before considering to take on that responsibility."

Peter has tips to save money:

- * Switch to a quality non-premium branded dog food, and if possible buy in bulk and share costs with other pet owners. Many owners did this following the 2008 financial crisis.

- * Groom your own pet as not only is it cheaper, it's a good way of bonding even closer with them.

- * Ask a friend or neighbour to dog sit rather than pay someone.

- * Don't pay for a professional dog walker, do it yourself.



Frozen Planet producer: I wanted to pick up a penguin chick to save it from icy grave



By **Julia Kuttner**

EMPEROR penguins could be frozen out of existence by the next century, experts fear.

The chilling warning comes from a producer behind tonight's heartbreaking first episode of the BBC's *Frozen Planet II*.

The show, narrated by Sir David Attenborough, looks at the challenges penguin chicks face when they are abandoned at just 12 days old.

Alex Lanchester said the "extreme" conditions he witnessed while filming make him fear emperor penguins could become extinct.

The flightless birds breed on sea ice, but chicks cannot survive in the Antarctic waters until they shed their down feathers.

Global warming puts them in danger of being wiped out, as ice floes break up, sending the youngsters plunging into the freezing depths.

Alex said: "If the ice breaks up earlier, whole colonies, thousands of chicks, could be wiped out in an instant. If we don't slow down climate change, emperor penguins [are] looking at extinction by the turn of the century."

He admitted he was tempted to save stricken chicks while filming, adding: "You feel like you want to intervene, to pick that penguin up, put it back the other side of the crack [in the ice]. But you have to remain objective."

● *Frozen Planet II* is due to be on BBC One at 8 tonight



Pictures: BBC STUDIOS/YOLAND BOSIGER

Parents filling glasses of children turning to booze

THE number of children as young as 11 who drink alcohol provided by their parents has soared.

NHS "worrying" figures show at-home drinking among 11 to 15-year-olds is on the rise, despite health risks, including being involved in violence and an increased risk of suicide.

The statistics – included in the report "Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England, 2021" – show 13 per cent of 11-year-olds said they drank alcohol at home with their parents.

In addition, 23 per cent of 12-year-olds and a quarter – 25 per cent – of 13-year-olds said they had drunk alcohol at some point.

The report focused on those who are classed as "current drinkers" – children who drink alcohol at least a few times a year. Eight per cent

By **Dominik Lemanski**

of 11-year-olds were classed as "current drinkers".

Almost two-thirds (60 per cent) of 15-year-olds said they drank. Overall, 16 per cent of all ages surveyed (11-15 year olds) had alcohol at least once a month.

Of those who drank at least once a month, 75 per cent of them were given the alcohol by their parents.

Other common ways to source alcohol were to take it from home with permission (50 per cent), or be given it by friends (46 per cent).

When asked where they consumed alcohol, the vast majority of children,

76 per cent, said they drank at home. The figure was just 66 per cent in 2018. Drinking at someone else's home was the next most common at 42 per cent.

Only 29 per cent of children admitted to drinking at parties with friends.

That's down significantly from the 40 per cent in 2018, before the Covid pandemic.

Current child drinkers were asked who they consume alcohol with. Two thirds (67 per cent) said they drink with their parents while 52 per cent said it was with friends.

In another worrying development, the number of children who said they drink alone rose from 3 per cent in



2018 to 6 per cent in 2021. Nuno Albuquerque, consultant treatment lead at the UK Addiction Treatment Group, analysed the data released by the NHS last week.

He said: "The rise in children drinking alcohol at such a young age, at home, with their parents is really quite worrying."

"Why are parents comfortable with their 11 and 12-year-old children drinking alcohol?"

He added: "It all comes down to a deep misunderstanding of how damaging alcohol can be to a child's mental and physical development."

"Alcohol is a toxin, and beginning to drink before the age of 14 is proven to be linked to increased health risks, being involved in violence and even suicidal thoughts and attempts."

"It really is that serious."

Express praised by ex-cop

A FORMER police officer who helped expose Rochdale grooming gangs has applauded the *Sunday Express* for helping re-open another investigation.

After quitting Greater Manchester Police in 2013, Maggie Oliver set up a foundation to support abuse victims.

In 2021 we reported how girls in Humberside were devastated after its force dropped a probe into allegations of grooming and abuse.

After a review by the national Operation Hydrant the probe has restarted. Maggie said: "The *Sunday Express* supported the girls, we wouldn't let it drop."

'Early starts put my daughter off acting'

By **Jaymi McCann**

SHE is part of Britain's great acting dynasty but Emilia Fox might be about to take Noel Coward's advice and not put her daughter on the stage.

Despite suspecting acting might be in the DNA, the *Silent Witness* star's daughter Rose, 11, has other ideas.

And she has her mum's backing in following a very different career path.

Emilia, whose mother is actress Joanna David and father is Bafta-winner Edward Fox, made her on-screen debut in Roman Polanski's *The Pianist* in 2001. And she's worked in TV and film ever since.

Her uncle is James Fox, and her cousins Jack, Laurence and Lydia are all actors.

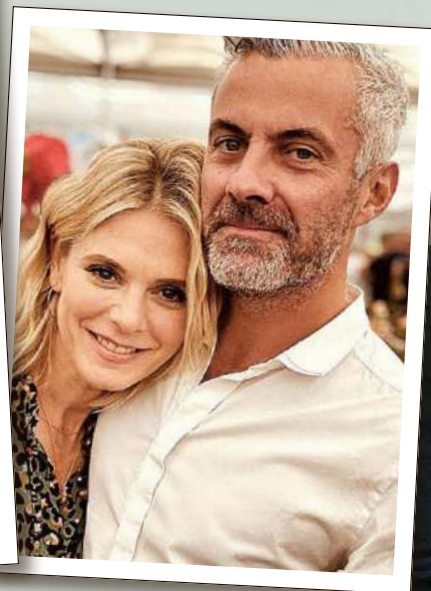
Her brother Freddie is in the industry, and her great-grandmother was the actress Hilda Hanbury, sister of fellow stage star Lily Hanbury.

Speaking about her thespian heritage, Emilia said: "I've been asked all my life, 'Do you think it's in your blood', and I was always like 'no no no, it's like having a family of doctors, you get used to the language and you feel comfortable around that world and sort of know it so you gravitate towards it'."

"Then I did the show *Who Do You Think You Are?* and saw there's a lot of actor family members in the business going back generations, so I thought maybe there is something to it being in the blood."

Now Rose, 11, who's father is filmmaker and peace campaigner Jeremy Gilley, might be about to change that.

"So far she has said she wants nothing to do with acting



LIKE MOTHER...: Emilia with 11-year-old daughter Rose. Right, the *Silent Witness* star with her partner Jonathan Stadlen

because of having to get up too early," Emilia, 48, laughs.

"And I think that's very good and maybe she will follow her dad into his profession or maybe she'll choose something completely different. But I think the most important thing is to give her the opportunity and keep the horizons as wide open as possible."

However, Rose is already showing some acting promise and her proud mum admits: "I did see her in her school play and she was very good in it."

Emilia, who is dating TV producer Jonathan Stadlen, is now taking on a new challenge.

After almost two decades playing a forensic scientist in

Silent Witness, she is presenting streaming series *Murderstown*, about true crimes on the Crime+Investigation channel.

In each episode, Emilia visits towns and communities rocked by murder.

"For 18 years I've been working on fictional crime solving but along the way I have met some extraordinary people who work on the real solving of crime."

"I've always been fascinated by their work and often their very unsung work."

"I think it's the human desire to understand the darker side of life. There is a sort of interest in trying to understand who commits awful crimes, why they do it and the natural human instinct to see justice is done."

● *Murderstown* from today at crimeandinvestigationplay.co.uk



Covid's cancer timebomb

PROSTATE cancer deaths are up because of disruption in healthcare during the pandemic, a study published today reveals.

As a result, there will be more deaths from the disease and life expectancy will be reduced "for many years to come", Prostate Cancer UK has warned.

The charity's study comes as experts warn the Covid-induced backlog is becoming "irreversibly worse" with patients facing record waits for lifesaving treatments. It studied records of 120,000 sufferers before and after the start of the pandemic.

Analysis showed a three per cent increase in men diagnosed with late-stage disease compared with pre-pandemic levels. It also found fewer men with advanced cancer had



By **Lucy Johnston** HEALTH EDITOR

received the recommended treatment: 38 per cent compared with 47 per cent before.

The study – presented to the European Society for Medical Oncology in Paris – also reported four per cent fewer younger men – aged 45 to 74 – were diagnosed during the pandemic and more men were diagnosed in emergency departments.

Disturbingly it also found during the first year of lockdown – between April and December 2020 – there was a 19 per cent jump in the number of men with prostate cancer dying of other causes, such as heart disease or dementia, compared with pre-pandemic levels, the equivalent of 3,700 extra

DATA: Chiara De Biase of Prostate Cancer UK

deaths. Chiara De Biase, of Prostate Cancer UK, said: "This data is extremely worrying and shows how vital it is that more is done to raise awareness of prostate cancer, particularly among younger men."

"At least 14,000 fewer men were diagnosed during the pandemic, and we now know that unless things change, we're facing the distressing prospect of worsening health outcomes for men."

The death last month of its ambassador, former BBC Breakfast presenter Bill Turnbull, was a reminder of the need for prompt diagnosis.

His determination to raise awareness saw record numbers of men diagnosed in 2018.

Ms De Biase added: "This data is particularly concerning because men treated for stage 1 and 2 prostate cancer have a nearly 100 per cent five-year survival rate, compared with around 50 per cent for those treated at stage 4. Diagnoses in A&E are

linked to lower survival rates." All cancer patients are facing longer waits to start treatment. Just 61.1 per cent began within the target 62 days of an urgent referral in July.

Oncologist Prof Pat Price, of the #CatchUp With Cancer Campaign, said: "These frightening long waits are yet more evidence that the Covid-induced cancer backlog is spiralling out of control."

She added: "We don't have enough front-line staff, machines or IT. We know every four-week delay leads to a reduction in survival. We urgently need a radical new approach from the new Health Secretary."

An NHS spokesman said: "NHS cancer teams are working hard to see and treat record numbers of patients."

"We continue to encourage men most at risk of prostate cancer, including black men, those over 50, or those with a family history, to speak to their GP about having a PSA test if they are concerned."

New arrest in hunt for Olivia killer

A 37-YEAR-OLD man has been arrested in connection with the murder of nine-year-old Olivia Pratt-Korbel, Merseyside Police said.

The man, from West Derby, has been detained on suspicion of assisting an offender.

Olivia was shot in the chest at her home in Liverpool on August 22.

In a statement, police said: "The investigation into Olivia's murder is ongoing and we continue to appeal for people with information to come forward to assist us in bringing those responsible to justice."

Man held in bomb probe is released

A MAN arrested over the Manchester city centre bombing in 1996 has been released without charge, police have said.

The 3,300lb bomb was hidden in a lorry on Corporation Street. It caused massive damage to shops and offices.

The IRA had sent telephone warnings 90 minutes before it was detonated on June 15.

There were no fatalities but more than 200 people were injured.

On Thursday, Greater Manchester Police held the man at Birmingham Airport on suspicion of terror offences. But yesterday, the force said he was released without charge on Friday night.

Honour for 'amazing' Boseman

THE brother of Hollywood star Chadwick Boseman has accepted a Disney Legend Award on his behalf, calling him "an amazing person".

The 43-year-old Black Panther actor died in 2020 after a battle with cancer.

He was given the posthumous honour, alongside other famous faces including Frozen actress Kristen Bell.

Speaking at the D23 Expo in Anaheim, California, Derrick Boseman said: "When I heard Disney wanted to honour Chad, the first word that came to mind was honour."

"Chad was an amazing person. Thank you for honouring my brother."

50 YEARS OF MASTERMIND

HALF A century ago today – Monday, September 11, 1972, to be precise – a new quiz show was screened on BBC One. Transmitted in the late-night "graveyard" slot of 10.45pm, however, no one would have been surprised if Mastermind, as it was catchily titled, had swiftly disappeared without trace.

The programme's fortunes received a major boost when it was unexpectedly switched to an early evening slot in early 1973, replacing Ray Galton and Alan Simpson's comedy Casanova '73, after complaints about risqué material.

From that moment, audience figures climbed steadily and soon averaged 10 million, an enormous number for a quiz. The highest viewing figure topped 20 million during an ITV strike.

Mastermind was devised by veteran TV producer Bill Wright, its format famously influenced by his harrowing Second World War experiences.

In 1942, while serving in the RAF, Wright's plane was shot down over Holland and, on capture, he was interrogated by the Gestapo.

For years after, he suffered nightmares punctuated with the quick-fire questions the Nazis had thrown at him: "Name, rank, number".

Later his broken nights inspired his new quiz show, the questions that dominated his nightmares replaced by "name, occupation, specialised subject". Throw in a spotlight, solitary chair and a terrifying focus on the contestants being interrogated against the clock and Wright had all the ingredients he needed.

When it came to finding a quizmaster, journalist and broadcaster Bernard Levin was among those briefly considered before the role was



HOT SEAT: John Humphrys was the host for 18 years. Clive Myrie, the latest presenter

offered to Icelandic-born Magnus Magnusson.

"As well as working on newspapers, he was a jobbing TV journalist, mainly focusing on archaeology programmes," says Magnus's daughter, Scottish broadcaster and journalist Sally Magnusson. "When offered the role, he was delighted, like any freelancer would be. He thought he'd give it a bash but had no idea whether it would still be going a year later, let alone 50 years."

Magnus regarded Mastermind as a remarkably innovative idea for its time.

He once explained: "It had no technological gimmicks, electronic gizmos, flashing lights or flashy prizes, just the concept of a severe interrogation under a spotlight with the slightly melodramatic overtones of the Inquisition."

Adding to the programme's sense of anticipation and intensity was its distinctive theme tune, courtesy of Bill Wright, who requested a sample of recordings from the BBC's Gramophone Library, all of which had to generate a feeling of foreboding and expectation.

Eventually, Wright opted for the aptly-named Approaching Menace by British composer Neil Richardson. But not everyone liked his choice.

In May 1983, the late critic Jean Rook, in her popular Daily Express column, remarked: "It's like a cross between a state funeral and the Amityville Horror theme."

What would Rook have said of the set had the inaugural designer got his way? To add visual drama, he wanted contestants to sit on a chair on a pretend island surrounded by water, which they would reach by walking along a retractable plank. The idea was quickly deemed unworkable.

To Magnus's amazement, Mastermind soon became a favourite of the public and he was recognised in supermarkets and stopped in the street. "My father became something of a celeb-

To celebrate the anniversary of the classic TV quiz show, **RICHARD WEBBER** talks to the original host's daughter Sally about how her father loved the job but she struggled with the fame it brought him (particularly in public)

I'm proud to be Magnus Magnusson's daughter...but as a teenager I'd squirm..!

rity which he found extraordinary. But he took it in his stride, more than I did," laughs Sally.

"At the height of its popularity, I was a teenager and found it embarrassing that wherever we went, people would shout: 'I've started, so I'll finish'."

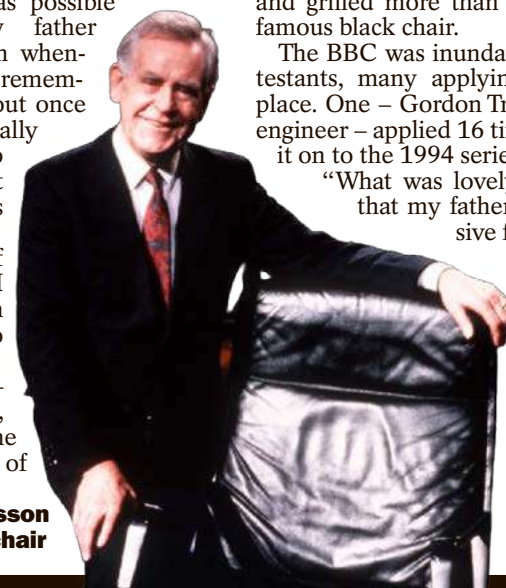
"You know what teenagers are like, they want their parents to fade into insignificance at times. But I couldn't escape, and having a name like Magnusson meant whenever I spoke to anyone, they'd always ask whether I was related to the Mastermind quizmaster."

"I kept away as much as possible from the attention my father attracted and would squirm whenever anyone stopped him. I remember my mother taking me out once and asking whether it was really necessary for me to walk so many paces behind them? It probably looked like I was ashamed of him."

"That wasn't true, of course, and as I grew older, I started realising it was an honour to have a dad who people liked and admired."

The famous catchphrase – "I've started, so I'll finish", which even made it into the Bloomsbury Dictionary of

FAMOUS: Magnus Magnusson with the daunting black chair



Popular Phrases – was coined by Magnus when the programme's rules changed.

Initially, each contestant's session ended the moment the bleeper sounded. After the rule change, the question and answer were permitted despite the bleeper having sounded.

That's when Magnus adopted the phrase. He once revealed: "It was only when viewers started writing to the BBC saying, 'I wish Magnusson would stop saying that damned silly sentence' I realised a catchphrase had been born."

Magnus wore the quizmaster's hat for 25 years and grilled more than 1,200 contestants in the famous black chair.

The BBC was inundated with prospective contestants, many applying endlessly to secure a place. One – Gordon Troughton, a retired phone engineer – applied 16 times before finally making it on to the 1994 series.

"What was lovely about Mastermind was that my father's persona was of impassive ferocity," says Sally.

"But behind the scenes, he was extraordinarily kind to the participants. He recognised that it was an intensive and difficult quiz, placing enormous stress on the mind and its ability to retrieve information."

Magnus felt that a crucial part of his job was to put people at ease, trying



CELEBRITY STATUS: Sally and father Magnus, who was **Mastermind's** quizmaster for 25 years

to settle their nerves by reminding them that "it's only a bloody game". "Whenever my father spoke to would-be contestants, he always advised against picking a specialist subject linked to one's job because it could be embarrassing, especially if you had made a hash of it."

Mastermind remained a mainstay of the BBC TV schedules for a quarter of a century until the original run ended in 1997. Magnus had been informed of the decision late in October 1996.

He once admitted he wasn't surprised and had never been contracted for more than a year at a time. But he didn't agree with the decision, as Sally says. "He sensed it was an enduring programme which would have remained popular."

He was proved right because before long the programme was revived and remains popular

today, with Clive Myrie now its host. When plans were first afoot to revive the quiz, Magnus was invited to return but politely refused.

After his final episode, he was given one of the show's most striking symbols – the famous black chair, which now sits in Sally's house.

During a long career, Magnus fronted myriad documentaries and wrote countless books but will always be remembered for Mastermind. He died of pancreatic cancer in 2007.

Says Sally: "It's often called the 'Silent Killer' because symptoms are difficult to discern early on. By the time he started feeling unwell and cancer was diagnosed, it was too late and he went down very fast in just a few months."

● *Mastermind returns to BBC Two this month*

ARE YOU A MASTERMIND?

- 1 Which author wrote the novel *The Invisible Man*, first published in 1897, about a scientist who stumbles across the secret of invisibility with dire consequences?
- 2 Which capital city stands on the southern side of the Gulf of Finland, opposite Helsinki?
- 3 What word, referring to great size, is used in astronomy as a measure of the brightness of a star or other celestial body?
- 4 *The Naked and the Dead*, published in 1948, was the debut novel of which American author, who based it partly on his experiences serving with the Army in the Pacific during the Second World War?
- 5 What military disaster of 1854 was commanded by James Brudenell, the 7th Earl of Cardigan?
- 6 In a traditional English pack of playing cards, the King of Diamonds holds what weapon in his right hand?
- 7 Which town near Cannes is a renowned centre for the production of fragrances for the perfume industry and of flavourings for food manufacturers?
- 8 Which island, the second largest in the Caribbean, is divided into the Republic of Haiti in the west and the Dominican Republic in the east?
- 9 Which singer, born Mary O'Brien, had success in the 60s with the songs "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me" and "Son Of A Preacher Man"?

- 10 In the 2018 TV series *Bodyguard*, which actress plays the Home Secretary Julia Montague, whose actions make her a terrorist target as she gains public notoriety?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 34

Parliaments on foot for brave dads

THREE bereaved fathers who raised nearly £900,000 for a suicide prevention charity after their sponsored walk went viral have begun a trek to all four UK parliaments.

Mike Palmer, Andy Airey and Tim Owen said they will "walk with due deference and respect for Her Majesty the Queen and her family" as they embark on a 500-mile trip in support of the national charity Papyrus Prevention of Young Suicide.

The trio – who all lost daughters – caught the attention of Hollywood stars such as Daniel Craig and Nicole Kidman with a 300-mile fundraising walk between their respective homes last year.

Their aim was to broaden the discussion on mental health and make more people aware of suicide prevention.

They are now walking to Parliament in London, Holyrood in Edinburgh, the Senedd in Cardiff and Stormont in Belfast during a month-long mission that they hope will help "quash the taboo" and get suicide awareness on the school curriculum.

Stormzy in protest on gun death

RAPPER Stormzy joined hundreds of people outside Scotland Yard yesterday to protest the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man by a police officer.

He joined the family of Chris Kaba, 24, who was shot dead after a police chase in Streatham Hill, south London, on Monday.

The star, who headlined Glastonbury in 2019, said he had been reluctant to come but urged the crowd: "Just have the stamina to keep going because what they have done is they have killed someone."

"It could have been a brother, it could have been your uncle, it could have been a nephew."

Mr Kaba's family said the firearms officers involved should be "immediately suspended".

They added that they were "shocked" the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) only decided to launch a homicide investigation into the incident on Friday.

Mr Kaba died after his car was hemmed in by two police cars in narrow Kirkstall Gardens and one round was fired from an officer's weapon.

ON THIS DAY WITH SHAUN WALLACE

September 11,
2001



AL QAEDA jihadists hijacked four planes and used them to murder 2,977 people. They were the deadliest terrorist attacks to take place in the US and changed global politics forever. Osama bin Laden was the mastermind and 19 of his followers played a direct role in the atrocities themselves.

The attackers seized control of four planes heading from the north east of America to California. After overpowering the crews, they took over the cockpits and aimed the jets at prominent buildings.

The first and second hit the north and south towers of the World Trade Center, causing both to collapse.

Live images of the impact and the falling buildings were beamed around the world.

The third plane struck the Pentagon, the headquarters of America's Department of Defence. The fourth was also heading towards Washington – likely with the Capitol or the White House in mind – but

Also on this day...

1885: DH Lawrence is born.

1973: Augusto Pinochet seizes power in Chile.

2008: Fire breaks out in the Channel Tunnel, leading to a six month closure.

the hijackers were overpowered by brave passengers. It crashed in a field in Pennsylvania, killing all on board.

The effects were seismic. For the first time Nato invoked Article 5, which states that an armed attack against one member is an attack against all.

President George W Bush declared a "war on terror". Believing that bin Laden was under Taliban protection in Afghanistan, he issued an ultimatum: to hand him over and close every terror training camp.

The Taliban refused and on October 7 the US attacked. The war would last 20 years.

But bin Laden evaded capture. Pakistani national Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, alleged to be the architect of the attacks, was captured in 2003. His trial is still ongoing.

Bin Laden was eventually located and killed in Pakistan by US special forces in 2011. His deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri, evaded authorities until he too was killed, in a US drone strike in July this year.

Question: Which American singer and pianist, born on this day in 1967, made his acting debut in the film Memphis Belle?

Last week I asked: On September 4, 1972, the longest running game show in the US was launched. What is it called? THE PRICE IS RIGHT.

LETTERS

Write to: The Editor, Sunday Express,
One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AP
Email: sunday.exletters@express.co.uk **Fax:** 0871 434 7300
Please include your name, address and daytime telephone number

A deep loss felt by us all

Arguably the greatest periods of British history have been under female monarchs.

Queen Elizabeth II guided the nation and Commonwealth through some turbulent times with dedication and a sense of duty for 70 years. She gave wise counsel, with thought for her subjects and the institution she represented.

Always dignified but with a dry sense of humour, the Queen represented stability and safe hands – for most people, for the entirety of their lifetime, which is why her loss is so deeply felt by so many.

In 2012 a letter I sent to the Express about the Queen's achievements was published as Letter of the Day. Pleased, I sent a copy of it to the Palace, and got a reply from her Lady in Waiting telling me of the Queen's appreciation of what I'd said and how "thoughtful" it was of me to send it. I shall treasure it even more now. Ma'am, you served the nation well.

Diane Silva,
Bournemouth, Dorset

Farewell your majesty

I can't quite believe our Queen has passed away. What a marvellous human being she was. A magnificent servant for this great country. She will be truly missed by us all.

Ann Bates,
Sheffield

She served with dignity

Dignified, loyal, humble and a guiding light for this country over the last 70 years, Queen Elizabeth II will be badly missed by her loyal subjects. God bless.

Mark Adams,
Leeds

A true beacon of hope

It hardly seems real that our great queen has passed away. Only a couple of months ago she was enjoying the tributes paid to her during her 70th Jubilee celebration.

The Queen has been a beacon of hope, humility, compassion and service.

John Taylor,
Cardiff

Voting a waste of time

While Boris has been magnanimous in being ousted ("Boris: Stop fighting and back new PM", September 4), the sorry affair doesn't deal with our voting system.

The coup to bring down Government has made a mockery of democracy. Along with 14 million voters my rights have been violated by the removal of a sitting PM by the back door rather than the ballot box. This is anti-democratic and unless it is



Picture: CREDIT COLON MAKES IT CAPS

dealt with, it will be pointless voting ever again.

Ray Leyden,
Morden, Surrey

PM's catalogue of errors

Why did so many want Boris to stay? Yes, he withdrew us from the EU and presided over a Covid campaign. But what else?

His Withdrawal Agreement with the EU is a disgrace. As for the Northern Ireland Protocol, it is as if he wanted the UK to be broken up. With regards to immigration, we are being invaded by illegals.

James Reynolds,
Brentwood, Essex

Peace work tossed aside

The death of Mikhail Gorbachev has evoked many memories of the 1980s ("He ripped apart Iron Curtain but leader was still Russian patriot", September 4).

This man's contribution to world peace was in the destruction of the Berlin Wall and the break-up of the USSR. The amazing work he did by reaching out to the West has been trashed by Putin.

Ruth Peberdy,
Bridgwater, Somerset

Get behind new leader

It is time for our new prime minister to stand with Ukraine and defeat the

aggression of Putin ("Britain's opportunity to unite behind PM", September 4).

Our armed forces network should be deployed in full to protect Ukraine's borders. If we do not support the country now, we will live to regret this opportunity to help.

Mick Smith,
March, Cambridgeshire

Rookie cops can't do job

Direct-entry detectives to the police? This is why crime detection has hit rock bottom ("Third of police have less than 5 years' experience", September 4).

These entrants have no experience in dealing with criminals, making arrests, building case files or attending court – all key elements in policing.

Detectives need knowledge and several years' experience. Criminals are running rings around these "detectives".

Christopher Humphreys,
Ewloe, Flintshire

Bring back our bobbies

What an excellent commentary by Peter Bleksley about the police ("Police should be chasing criminals, not Twitter 'likes'", September 4).

Why aren't the police chasing criminals, not dancing in a Pride demonstration?

I doubt the public feel they get value for money. Living in Somerset I've always felt secure but now we have street assaults and people being knifed in parks.

Bring back officers as we used to know them, not as social workers. Let us feel safe in the streets again.

Suzi White,
Taunton, Somerset

It's, like, so annoying

I agree with Pam Woolley (Letters, September 4) regarding the debasement of the English language. What we mainly hear now is Americanese. Every other word is "like", accompanied by a great deal of "kind of" and "sort of". We don't even die any more, we pass. I'll pass on that one for now as I haven't kinda hit my time yet. We now live in LA... Little America. Excuse me while I kind of take my leave, folks.

Derek Butchart,
Birtley, County Durham

TELEPHONE VOTE RESULT

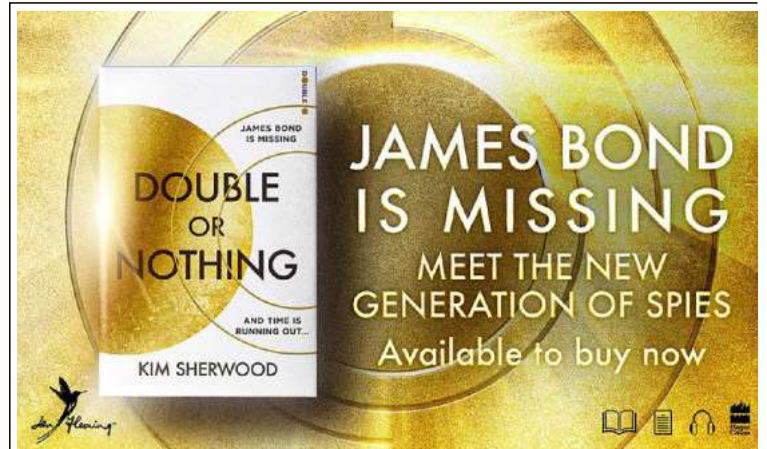
Last week we revealed that British jails could end up housing more Albanian offenders than prisons in their homeland without action to tackle the migrant crisis, and we asked:

Is it too easy to illegally enter Britain?
YES: 100% NO: 0%

JAMES BOND in CASINO ROYALE by Ian Fleming

DRAWN BY JOHN McLUSKY

Casino Royale © Ian Fleming Publications Ltd 1953/The James Bond Strip © Express Newspapers Ltd 1987.



REVIEW

Edited by GARRY BUSHELL

Ben Miller spent lockdown in paradise, yet found time to pen another warm, humorous children's book, he tells **Garry Bushell**

THE MILLER'S TALES

REVIEW: HUMOUR



VERSATILE:
Ben Miller
plays lecherous
lord in
Bridgerton and
with Alexander
Armstrong as
the Chav Pilots

EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

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In this year's Rupert Annual, Rupert discovers a secret path, goes on a chilly adventure to meet King Frost, solves a mystery with the help of a clever parrot and much more! Enjoy a brand-new story 'Rupert and April Showers', originated and illustrated by Stuart Trotter, plus a selection of much-loved activities to complete at home.

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GILES 2023

PUBLISHED BY
OCTOPUS PUBLISHING GROUP

Giles enthusiasts will be thrilled with this latest collection of classic cartoons. Capturing Giles's trademark style and British humour, the 2023 annual takes a look at family scenes throughout the 50-year career of the cartoonist.

Giles also brilliantly details those scenes involving the iconic family of the charismatic matriarch and the tearaway kids as they react and parody the news of the day.

These are timeless scenes that all families can recognise and identify with. Fans of Giles will be delighted to receive the latest annual compilation featuring 150 cartoons to enjoy from the archives of one of the most celebrated cartoonists of the once biggest selling daily newspaper in the world, the Daily Express, whose work led to him being voted the best cartoonist of the 20th century.

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SE15

'The secret to comedy? Relaxing...'

HOW WAS lockdown for you? Ben Miller had it tough. The Bafta-winning actor found himself and his family stranded – in a luxury villa in sun-kissed Marrakesh. "We went for a half-term holiday in Morocco and couldn't come back for four months," the Professor T star tells me. The heart bleeds...

Don't be too envious, though. When the Millers finally landed at Gatwick, they realised they had parked in the short stay car park.

"They were very kind to us," says Ben. "They let us off... but then the car wouldn't start. The battery had died..."

Multi-talented Miller – comedian, TV favourite and film star, acclaimed for his roles in the Johnny English and Paddington movies – used the unexpected break to pen his latest children's fantasy book.

The Night We Get Stuck In A Story, out this week, is the sixth in his best-selling series of magical adventures percolated in warm humour.

"The stories are based on my children," he says. In this one, his youngest sprogs, Harrison, 10, and Lana, seven, find "a hollow tree that leads to the story their nanna had been reading them and have to defeat an evil witch".

Miller weaves the children's real-life activities into the tale, along with some science and a dollop of the classics. "In this one it's Beowulf, the Anglo-Saxon epic with Grendel the monster," he explains. "I like to tap into the folklore we all share and connect with."

"I wrote the first book for my eldest son, Jackson, who told me he wasn't sure Father Christmas existed. So I wrote a story that proved he did." The watertight slice of pro-Santa propaganda sold half a million copies in a matter of months.

Ben, 56, is full of more surprises than the quantum physics he studied at Cambridge. For starters he reveals that, "although I am the least Cockney person you could ever meet, I could lay claim to being a Cockney because I was born in St Bartholomew's hospital, Smithfield. My father was from Bethnal Green."

"And," he adds less convincingly, "I've got a pearly jacket upstairs, and a pearly hat..."

His paternal grandfather, who had shops in the East End, was clearly an influence. At Malbank comprehensive school in Cheshire, Ben started a black-market tuck shop "buying sweets in bulk and selling them on for a huge profit – I inherited that entrepreneurial streak from him".

He found fame in the Armstrong and Miller comedy double act with Alexander Armstrong, but made his teenage stage debut playing guitar and singing in a schoolboy progressive rock band called Akilai.

"It was either the Latin or Celtic for evil," Ben says with a smile. "There wasn't much singing, not much in the way of lyrics... only those prog rock staples, the wizard and his wonky hat. The

names of the bands back then... Alexander Armstrong was in a band called Social Authentic."

Wizard-bothering Akilai went down better with audiences than Ben's comedy initially did.

"I tried stand-up at university, in one of the pubs in Cambridge. It was disastrous!"

Because of your material or the audience? "A combination," he admits. "I only really got to the stage where I could hold my head above water when I started doing sketches with Alexander Armstrong. That's when I thought, I've really got it – whatever it is!"

The pair created inept detectives Parsons and Lampkin, and Norwegian heavy metal duo Strijka. A sketch based on The Great Escape morphed into their well-known Chav Pilots.

"That was the first sketch that properly worked. A producer saw it and it was serialised on Radio 4's Loose Ends."

They were nominated for a Perrier award at the 1996 Edinburgh Fringe Festival; Paramount Comedy snapped them up and then Channel 4 signed them for three series.

One highlight was a naked Peak Practice spoof co-starring Sarah Alexander.

Comedy success, Ben argues, is "a bit like clocking up airmiles; it's not about the jokes so much, it's how relaxed you are. An audience can spot whether or not you know what you're doing and if they feel they're in safe hands they're more forgiving."

"We got to the stage where we wanted to play with the audience so the material was just a stepping stone to finding a connection with them. You could have the best jokes but unless you've got that connection it won't work."

MILLER, AN immensely likeable cove, has established connections with millions of viewers who loved him as DI Richard Poole in the BBC's cosy crime drama Death In Paradise – a dream role which found him wearing a waistcoat in the 45 degrees Caribbean summer.

He only quit after three series because wife Jessica was pregnant.

He was lecherous Lord Featherington in Bridgerton, James Lester in Primeval, and is back on ITV on Friday as genius criminologist Professor Jasper Tempest, aka Professor T.

His parents – a lecturer in American literature and an English teacher – relocated to the market town of Nantwich, Cheshire when Ben was a toddler.

Raised on the Beatles and the Stones, the first music that was his was the 2-Tone Ska of the Specials and The Beat. He also adored Tolkien, Norse folklore and the Arthurian legends.

He was drawn to drama, but his father



“
I tried
stand-up at
university in
one of the
pubs in
Cambridge.
It was
disastrous



HOT STUFF:
Besuited
cop Ben
in *Death
In Paradise*

convinced him to study science. At Cambridge, Ben joined the Footlights where he performed with and dated Rachel Weisz. He obtained a 2:1 in Natural Sciences but abandoned a PhD in solid state physics to appear in a comedy play.

He's happily married to film producer Jessica Parker, whose father Alan played guitar in Blue Mink.

The couple moved to a Gloucestershire hamlet from northwest London seven years ago, residing in a Cotswold stone house with “really low ceilings, we're like the Borrowers”, set in idyllic countryside.

His older son is from his first marriage to actress Belinda Stewart-Wilson (Will's “hot mum” in *The Inbetweeners*).

Miller half knew Armstrong from the Footlights but they only properly clicked when his north London flatmate, playwright Jez Butterworth, introduced them in 1992. A drunken night on a barge inspired their double act.

Fame came five years later. “There's a definite point when someone stops you in the street for the first time and says ‘Hey Ben’ and you realise you don't know them, they know you from TV.”

His comedy success allowed him to branch into TV acting and then co-presenting popular science show, ITV's *It's Not Rocket Science*.

Born in 1966, Ben is a passionate England football supporter. He enjoys TV detectives, citing *Morse* and *Columbo* as the historic best. “But I also loved *The Killing* and *The Bridge* – which were everything light and fluffy British

crime shows weren't; after them a little bit of darkness crept in.” Professor T, back for a second series this week, is shot in Belgium and “has a bit of a Scandi-noir flavour”, he says. The new run looks deeper into the Prof's troubled past.

BEN IS enjoying life. “I love being a parent, we've given the kids interesting experiences,” he says, but acknowledges “I can get too wrapped up in work, and find it hard to switch off.”

“When you're filming or working non-stop, you get in a strange head space and there's a weird decompression when I get back home. But by that time my wife is really hacked off with the childcare on her own for four months.”

Writing fantasy books offered a solution. “I love it. I can be at home and around for the school run and lunch. I've got into working for short periods, so I try to be very focused.”

“As you get older you realise you're not a run-away train.”

Books like *The Day I Fell Into A Fairytale* sound like films waiting to be made, I say.

“The rights are available!” he laughs. “And I've got another out at Christmas.”

● Ben Miller's *The Night We Got Stuck In A Story* is published on Thursday. Professor T returns on Friday



TEA TIME: Ben and Emma Naomi
in *Professor T*, above, and with his
wife, TV producer Jessica Parker



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REVIEW: MUSIC



with JAMES CABOOTER

ROBBIE WILLIAMS

XXV ★★★★★

NOT just bells and whistles, Robbie's added real drama to his best-loved songs thanks to a mix of sensitive and bombastic orchestral arrangements. It breathes new life into his more dated tunes (Rock DJ) and fresh poignancy to others (No Regrets). Three excellent new tunes on the deluxe version fit in seamlessly.



OZZY OSBOURNE

Patient Number 9

★★★★

THE Prince of Darkness assembles the greatest-ever rock 'n' roll line-up on an LP boasting Jeff Beck, Tony Iommi, members of Pearl Jam, Metallica, Guns N' Roses and the late Taylor Hawkins. Some songs could benefit from more medicine but it's hard to resist Eric Clapton's bluesy turn.



JOHN LEGEND

Legend ★★★★★

HERE'S a rare thing, a double album that flies by. That's because Legend has created a soul-pop classic featuring memorable modern R&B nuggets (Dope) alongside authentically retro-sounding soul standards. Better still, there's a dose of disco (All She Wanna Do) and a dip into saucy 90s balladry (Honey). Legendary.



JULIAN LENNON

Jude ★★★

A DECADE since his last work, Julian teams with songwriters including Guy Chambers for a slick pop LP that recalls Tears For Fears at their most introverted. Piano chords at the start of Save Me sound Lennon-ish but, compared to 30 years ago, Julian's voice possesses more wisdom on tunes like Freedom.

REVIEW: STAGE



with STEFAN KYRIAZIS

GARY BARLOW: A DIFFERENT STAGE ★★★★★

Duke of York's Theatre until September 25, UK tour until November 20 (adifferentstage.show)

PART confessional, part cosy chat, this pared-back one-man autobiographical show is buoyed by Barlow's beautiful vocals and songwriting, and impressively powered by that cheerily megawatt Cheshire charm.

Swapping stadiums and slick suits for a red tracksuit top and trainers, the Take That icon comes on to deafening screams from the predominantly female audience. Pulling props from piled-up metal touring cases and tinkling on a black piano, he opens with touching childhood anecdotes of his mother listening to Radio Merseyside and his father working two jobs and sacrificing desperately needed time off work for overtime to pay for young Gary's first keyboard.

Amusing recreations of early shows in working men's clubs, complete with tinsel curtain and soundtracked by Rhinestone Cowboy and Copacabana, segue into the rise, fall and rebirth of Take That, with snippets of hits and sneak peeks into the band.

Nothing is off limits as he merrily mocks his disastrous US solo career and breezes through bulimia, booze and tax evasion with a disarmingly self-deprecating humour that also prevents any real depth. Far greater emotional impact comes with piercing recollections of the loss of stillborn daughter Poppy and then his father.

At the end, a hits megamix (and some cycling shorts) remind us that, 30 years after the release of the band's debut album, there's always time to Take That And Party.



NUREYEV: LEGEND AND LEGACY ★★★★★

Theatre Royal Drury Lane on September 12, streaming on Marquee TV from September 16 (nureyevlegendandlegacy.com)

RUDOLF Nureyev's incandescent talent is celebrated by some of Europe's leading dancers in this gala retrospective of his signature roles.

Highlights include Vadim Muntagirov's dreamy elegance, William Bracewell's



exquisite understated melancholy, and Francesco Gabriele Frola's swiftly scissoring footwork.

For a programme ostensibly honouring male virtuosity, the powerhouse women almost steal the show, notably Natalia Osipova, Francesca Hayward and a sublimely haunting Alina Cojocaru.

Some of the chaps lack Rudy's animal magnetism and attack but Cesar Corrales brings the house down, sensationally jumping and whirling through Le Corsaire, matched by an explosive Yasmine Naghdi.

REVIEW: CINEMA



with ANDY LEA

 STAR RATINGS ★★★★★ Excellent ★★★★★ Good
 ★★★ Worth a look ★★ Poor ★ Don't bother

**MOUSETRAP
MURDER:**
 Coppers Sam Rockwell
 and Saoirse Ronan,
 with no shortage
 of suspects

Stage frights

SEE HOW THEY RUN

 Cert 12A ★★★★★
 In cinemas now

THE old-fashioned whodunnit is enjoying a comeback. Next month sees the release of *Amsterdam*, a 1930s-set murder-mystery starring Christian Bale, Margot Robbie and Robert De Niro. And at Christmas, Daniel Craig returns as sleuth Benoit Blanc in *Glass Onion*, the sequel to the 2019 hit *Knives Out*.

This week, we are treated to two, *Bodies Bodies Bodies* (see right) and this ingenious comedy, which takes a sideways look at Agatha Christie's long-running West End play *The Mousetrap*.

Made more in the spirit of Margaret Rutherford's farcical *Marple* than Kenneth

Branagh's dour Poirot, this entertaining Brit flick offers two whodunnits for the price of one.

We're in the 1950s as the original cast celebrates the play's 100th performance in the bar of the Ambassador Theatre when the body of a Hollywood director is discovered on its famous stage.

The obnoxious Leo Kopernick (Adrien Brody) had been working on a movie adaptation with precious playwright Mervyn Cocker-Norris (David Oyelowo).

The world-weary Inspector Stoppard and enthusiastic rookie Constable Stalker (Sam Rockwell and Saoirse Ronan, both excellent) find no shortage of suspects.

At the celebrations, a drunken Kopernick

“
Setting offers
period glamour
and the plot
sees immoral
rich get their
just desserts

incur the wrath of the play's star, darling Dickie Attenborough (a very funny Harris Dickinson).

The prissy Cocker-Norris had clashed with the crass American too. And it turns out Kopernick had blackmailed Reece Shearsmith's film producer into paying for his plush suite at the Savoy.

In the tradition of the big-screen murder mystery, the setting offers period glamour, the plot sees the immoral rich get their just desserts, and a tidy puzzle allows us to escape the complexities of an uncertain world.

So why is the whodunnit having a moment? There may be clues in the previous paragraph.

BODIES BODIES BODIES

 Cert 15 ★★★★★
 In cinemas now

A *CHILDISH* game takes a macabre turn in this entertaining US murder mystery.

The setting is a plush poolside mansion where a gang of wealthy, American and thoroughly obnoxious 20-somethings (including Amandla Stenberg, Maria Bakalova and Pete Davidson) are partying their way through a hurricane.

After the thrills of champagne swilling and coke-snorting wear off, they look for fresh kicks with a game Americans appear to call *Bodies, Bodies, Bodies* but Brits may recognise as *Murder In The Dark*.

You can probably tell where this is heading. The pretend murders turn out to be real and the rich kids are forced to turn detective.

The killings aren't especially scary but there's some sharp dialogue as the self-obsessed youths attack each with psycho-babble buzzwords such as “gaslighting” and “triggering”.


**MURDER IN
THE DARK:**
 Party games
 go wrong

THE SCORE

 Cert 15 ★★★★★
 In cinemas now

WHILE the whodunnit genre makes a killing, the steam seems to have gone out of the musical's comeback. And sadly, while this muddled Brit flick scores highly for originality, it's a few thousands miles from becoming the next *La La Land*.

Most of the film is set in a rural café, where two minor-league criminals (actor-musician Johnny Flynn and actor Will Poulter) are waiting to do a £20,000 deal (one possible meaning of the score of the title) with tardy hoodlums.

As Poulter's character falls for Naomi Ackie's waitress and the lads reveal their thinly sketched back stories, everyone keeps bursting into song. Not the exuberant life-affirming numbers we've come to expect but soul-searching indie ballads from Flynn's back catalogue.

All three actors deliver compelling performances but the few lyrics I could pick out from the over-produced score (another possible explanation for the title) had little to do with the plot.


OFF KEY:
 Actors
 Naomi
 Ackie and
 Will Poulter

**PYRAMID
SELLING:**
 Tad and the
 gang visit
 Egypt

TAD THE EXPLORER AND THE CURSE OF THE MUMMY

 Cert U ★★★★★
 In cinemas now

IT WAS a washout summer for kids' animation so the breezy third instalment in this dubbed Spanish series could appeal to little ones tired of the limited charms of *Minions 2* and *DC League Of Super-Pets*.

Chicago bricklayer and wannabe Indiana Jones Tad Stones (voiced by Trevor White) is still living with his flatulent undead flatmate Mummy (Joseph Balderrama) when they both get sucked into a new globe-trotting adventure.

The animation is gorgeous and there are zippy chase scenes in Paris and Egypt. But witless dialogue means that there's little to treasure for accompanying adults.

CRIMES OF THE FUTURE

 Cert 18 ★★★★★
 In cinemas now

DISTURBING, kinky, disgusting, annoying. Canadian director David Cronenberg's new nightmare will be everything his fans dreamed of.

Here, the 79-year-old probes the same issues and pushes the same buttons that made *Scanners*, *Videodrome* and *Crash* so horribly memorable.

Once again, human evolution is the theme as we are thrown into a grim and very grimy future where pain has almost vanished. Performance artist Saul Tensor (Viggo Mortensen) keeps growing new mutant organs and he's getting them surgically removed on stage by his


GORY:
 Viggo
 Mortensen
 with
 mutant
 organs

assistant (Léa Seydoux). Kristen Stewart's government agent is watching in a state of quivering excitement. “Surgery is the new sex,” she whispers to Tensor after the gory show.

Tensor may be the most famous producer of new organs but he's not alone.

The authorities are increasingly worried about the rapidly changing human

anatomy, believing we're reaching a new stage of evolution that desperately needs to be kept in check.

The dense dialogue and slow but very deliberate pace can make for hard work. But I suspect this is another Cronenberg “body horror” that will be very hard to shake off.

REVIEW: TELEVISION



Brian Auger

London-born Brian is a jazz and rock keyboardist who worked with the Yardbirds, Rod Stewart and Jimi Hendrix. He is best known for *This Wheel's On Fire* – the theme tune to *Absolutely Fabulous* – his 1968 smash by Julie Driscoll with Brian Auger And The Trinity

What was your first TV memory?

My eldest brother Jim and my dad walking into the backyard with the TV aerial trying to get a signal and then moving around to get a better picture.

Who was your first TV crush?

Joan Bakewell who used to handle the arts coverage. She was a very classy lady, beautiful and she knew all about jazz. I was quite taken with her. She took the inevitable Bakewell Tart remarks in her stride.

What was your first TV appearance?

In Manchester, playing a jazz standard on a jazz programme with the Brian Auger Quartet. The Scaffold were on the same show and we had a really good time.

**What is your favourite current show?**

I always watch Faeed Zackaria on CNN on a Sunday. There is so much garbage on American TV, but he has a real idea of what is going on. Well respected, very informative. He gives real insights into world events.

Which TV show would you take to a desert island?

Spike Milligan's Q series. I'd take that to keep my spirits up. It was absolutely hilarious.

What TV show would you like to put out of its misery?

Fox TV. I'm really afraid their right-wing agenda will swallow the big channels. It's a disease that's spreading. I was a toddler when the Nazis bombed us, we can't risk that happening again.

Guiltiest TV pleasure?

Black and white repeats of *Gunsmoke* – it was originally called *Gunlaw* in the UK. It had Marshall Matt Dillon, Kitty, Chester, Doc Adams. It's a link to how the West was, stories of wagon trains and Dodge City.

What are you up to at the moment?

I'm promoting my boxset with Julie Driscoll and The Trinity. They've done a phenomenal job of restoring the sound quality.

● Brian Auger, Julie Driscoll & The Trinity release 5xLP mega boxset *Far Horizons* on Friday

GARRY BUSHELL



with DAVID STEPHENSON

The Doc will see you now...for the last time

IN A WEEK of political tumult, what a feel-good moment it was to have Martin Clunes's *Doc Martin* (ITV, Wednesday) back on the box. It's tinged with sadness for diehard fans though because it's coming to an end after this series. Personally, I may need consoling – over a nice pint in a Port Isaac, sorry Portwenn pub – with the legendary Doc dispensing his usual no-nonsense prescription, “Don't be so h****y stupid, and GET BACK TO WORK”.

The Doc's demise will also leave a gaping hole in our comedy-drama choices, since no one seems to be making these shows anymore. The reason? They're just so difficult to get right so when something like *Doc Martin* or *Cold Feet* takes off, it's a cause to celebrate. Where's the next comedy-drama coming from? The shelves look bare. Thank goodness for online box sets – if you have access.

The good news is a Christmas special also beckons, which I imagine will delight local mischief maker Mr Large, who after that particular instalment will be known as Bert Larger.

The season opener was a *Doc Martin* classic. Having resigned as a GP, he couldn't help but diagnose people anyway, such as Fay Ripley who arrived on his doorstep with breathing difficulties. Have you seen the hills in Port Wenn? Everyone's got breathing issues.

“Why are you so out of breath?”

barked the Doc. Delightfully brusque as ever, with a glorious bedside manner matching James Robertson Justice from *Doctor In The House*. Interestingly, medical historians will watch this show in two decades and go, “Look at these funny, face-to-face consultations...What a waste of time!” And what is this place called Wade-BRIDGE? The locals will be up in arms. Again!

Special mention also to the barking Mrs Tishell (Selina Cadell) who performed this week's “Don't Try This At Home” moment – unless you're really bored of course. It involved firing a staple gun into your own hand three times. She could do demos in Ryman's.

On most occasions it's difficult to see the point of *Celebrity SAS Who Dares Wins* (Channel 4, Sunday). It comes under the heading of, “What sort of fee would I get for... (add reality show of choice)?” asked a little-known celebrity of their agency. So it was again, largely.

Four shouty armed services chaps take on 14 hooded celebs, trying to make them into passable television. Said one beefcake to the assembled reality numpties, “You will face pain, misery and suffering...” And that's just the audience.

That said, the setting did help. The Jordanian desert

OUT TO GRASS: Martin Clunes and Caroline Catz return in *Doc Martin*

**STEPHENSON'S ROCKET**

IT'S very annoying.

You sit down, full of autumnal optimism, to watch a BBC comedy and it just isn't funny. Doubly annoying is that *Stuck* (BBC One, Thursday) stars two excellent actors, Dylan Moran and Morgana Robinson, but even they couldn't rescue such a tedious, unimaginative idea. I'm not even sure what it was. You just didn't care about them. Immediately! And it's made by Hat Trick productions who should know rubbish when they see it. But the BBC shouldn't buy it either. Moran plays an ad man who is sacked. So should be some comedy executives...

looked spectacular, so their tourist commission will be one satisfied viewer.

But people go on “journeys”, we're told. I didn't much care for the “reality stars” such as Callum Best or Pete Wicks – that's their job – but I was floored by Fatima Whitbread's dramatic life story, which I thought I knew.

Impressed by her performance in the “gassing exercise”, Fatima was called to the interrogation room to account for herself, which she did confidently. Not only was she abandoned as a baby in a flat where she was “left to die”, she was then sent to a children's home where she literally did not have a single



visitor in 14 years. Absolutely tragic. Thank goodness she could throw a javelin.

Channel 5 has a new cost of living show – *Billionaire Resorts: On Holiday With the Super Rich* (Channel 5, Sunday). I'd much rather watch *Struggling Billionaires: How Do They Get By?*

We were visiting the Maldives where you can sleep over seawater on a few planks of driftwood, without walls or a roof. Sounds like hard-up glamping. Still, it only costs £37,000 a night for the best one, which comes with air conditioning.

There is an upside for snorkelers. One guest threw a bag of \$30,000 cash into the water a few years ago. How careless.

It's never been found. It's probably hanging off the tail fin of a reef shark. Go get it!

Mary Berry, left, was back with a fascinating new series about sharing the food we cook from her ever-reliable recipes. *Mary Berry Cook And Share* (BBC Two, Wednesday) will encourage us not to eat the entire chocolate cake that she rustles up. Does it ever go wrong? Probably not. Don't watch on a diet.

Finally, the most perfectly produced 30 minutes of TV was *Mortimer And Whitehouse: Gone Fishing* (BBC Two, Friday). It feels like it lasts an hour, in a good way, it is that engrossing.

That's going some as we're simply watching two middle-aged men fishing. The most fascinating moment was when Bob pulled out a tape measure. Where was this episode going?

No need to worry as he was just checking that Paul's waistline wasn't over the danger level of 102cm. It wasn't – but Bob's was! More energetic fly-fishing then. A blissful watch.

“Back pain was ruining my life, until I found this incredible device. It takes just a few minutes a day!”

“The best feeling of my life!”

Bernard Hinault
5 times Tour de France winner

Thousands of people like Bernard Hinault have already chosen BackPhysio® to eliminate their back pain, sciatica, thigh pain or neck pain. We wanted to know more so we interviewed Bernard at his home.

Hello Bernard! No need to introduce yourself, you've been such an important figure in cycling with 147 professional wins and 5 Tour de France wins. Cycling is one of the most demanding sports on the back, it's not surprising you had back pain??

Bernard: When I was a professional cyclist, I had no back pain. As soon as I'd finished a race or a training session, my physio would work on me. He kept everything together.

It was when I stopped cycling that my back problems started. I didn't exercise anymore, I looked after my farm so I was busy all year round.

Often my back got stiff so I'd see a chiropractor who manipulated me and I'd be OK for a few weeks. Then, after a long car trip, I couldn't get out of bed the following morning. I had to call my old physio to sort me out. He told me that I really had to strengthen my back and follow his instructions. But of course, after a few days, I gave up. It was easier to take anti-inflammatories... I carried on like that for a few years.

Question: So what changed? How have you fixed your back problems?

Bernard: We were staying at a friend's house on holiday and he had something I'd never seen before. He explained “It's a BackPhysio® and it helps you stretch your spine and prevents back pain!” He then explained that it's the only device that stretches the spine fully and totally effortlessly, simply by leaning forward. It takes just 3 minutes, 3 times a day to get a healthy pain free back.

I decided to give it a go, it seemed so simple but too good to be true. He adjusted the belt to my height and asked me to put my forearms in the correct position, and then I leaned forward.

Question: Then what?

Bernard: It was a revelation! My whole

spine stretched without me making any effort! I promise you, I heard almost all my vertebrae click back into place with noises like I heard at the chiropractor's. I stayed in this comfortable and relaxed position and when I stood up, I had the best feeling in my life. I felt light, with an upright posture I'd never had before.

I was totally amazed. I went online and I ordered one straight away. I would have paid any price after this 3 minute trial. I imagined the results I'd get after a week or month of use!

Question: That was the beginning of your love affair with BackPhysio®?

Bernard: Exactly. The next day I got a lovely email. The distributor knew me and was a big cycling fan. He offered me a free device if they could mention my name as a user.

I was pleased but I said I wanted to try it first for 3 months and assess the results. I'd only give my consent if I was totally satisfied. During the week I spent at my friend's house, I took the chance to keep doing three, 3-minute sessions each day.

I felt better and better. When I got home, my BackPhysio® had arrived. I assembled it (it's very simple) and continued my three, 3-minute sessions every day.

Question: How do you feel now?

Bernard: After a month I felt I had a new lease of life, all my pain had gone. It was really noticeable in the morning because I didn't have any more stiffness and twinges in my lower back. I felt like everything in my body was loosening up and my legs felt strong. What I didn't expect was that I gradually stood up straighter and straighter and my abdominal muscles tightened as a result. My tummy became much flatter and firmer.

Question: You seem convinced?

Bernard: Yes, totally convinced, and with such results, I didn't wait 3 months to allow them to use my testimonial – I told

them straight away. Anyone who reads this interview, I can tell you without doubt that if you suffer from back pain, BackPhysio® is definitely the easiest, fastest and healthiest solution for you.

Fantastic, and thank you very much Bernard Hinault. We wish you happy cycling and a healthy back!

How does BackPhysio® work to combat back pain, sciatica, thigh pain or neck pain?

Back pain is mostly due to wear and tear. Vertebral discs stop performing their function because they're worn out, stiff or even destroyed. This then leads to sciatica, lumbago and lower back pain because the nerves get pinched and the bones start rubbing together.

This is caused by the weight borne by our spine all through our lives and, obviously, excess weight doesn't help. Also poor posture for example when sitting, standing, walking, trauma, accidents, and excessive and repeated exercises over the years all contribute to excessive strain on your back.

Gravity and our own weight are working against us, putting pressure on the discs and preventing your vertebrae from returning to their normal position. The only way to repair this damage is to regularly lengthen the spine upwards, which is impossible with simple stretches and even less so with massage.

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Hummingbird's surprise copycat

Gardens are abuzz with the humming of one of nature's most confounding creatures.

Out of nowhere these Unfathomable Flying Objects materialise, all beady eyes and pulsating wings as they sip nectar from delicate flowers with their "beaks".

Little wonder that anyone witnessing these incredible aerobatics believes they have encountered the most accomplished of all avian flying machines - the hummingbird.

Persuading friends that they haven't actually seen the world's smallest yet most technically advanced bird hovering this side of the Atlantic has been a challenge these past weeks.

Instead, they have seen one of the natural world's finest examples of convergent evolution - when animals independently evolve similar traits - in the shape of the hummingbird hawkmoth.

Anyone who has spied a hummingbird buzzing through the canopy of a Brazilian rainforest or drinking from a sugar-water feeder on a Texan porch, and then returned to Britain to see the hawkmoth, will attest to the remarkable similarities between bird and bug.

Indeed, the first time I saw a diminutive tufted coquette hummingbird in the gardens of a Trinidad nature reserve, I was convinced it was a hawkmoth. There was little difference in size and the bird's most striking field mark on show was a white band across the rump, a feature shared by the insect.

How the moth and bird can look similar illustrates the way animals can adapt to look like each other if they have similar lifestyles. Think of penguins in Antarctica and the guillemots of the Arctic.

This summer has been a boom time for hummingbird hawkmoths from southern climes. Members of the British Trust for Ornithology's Garden BirdWatch scheme have recorded a near five-fold increase above the annual average.

So what did we call hummingbird hawkmoths before the first naturalists arrived in the Americas? A delve into the writings of Virginia Woolf shows how she came across the moths while holidaying in Cornwall, where their zigzag hovering flights earned them the traditional name of the merry-lee-dance-a-pole.

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IN THE Know



Ornamental alliums are lollipop baubles of colour to enrich any plot or bed

It's that time of year again when the garden centres and supermarkets wheel out their bulb collections. Bulbs are packages of potential, containing the embryos of leaves and flowers which will burst into life next spring. Purchase now so you get the pick of the crop and put them into the ground as quickly as possible.

The exception to this rule is tulips which are traditionally planted in November to reduce the risk of fungal

disease. Alliums, or ornamental onions, are an excellent place to start. They are easy to grow and do a great job of bridging the gap between spring and summer.

They begin to flower in May, and this has made them a firm favourite with garden designers at the annual Chelsea Flower Show.

I love using them in a fun way - lollipop baubles of colour drifting through planting schemes. Dot them among other perennials in a

GARDEN



with DIARMUID GAVIN

gardening@express.co.uk

Sorry, Diarmuid cannot reply personally

your onions



wave formation and then forget about them until next year when they will pop up and reward you with their beautiful firework globes.

In the wild, alliums often grow in poor, stony ground and thin soil so you don't need to enrich your soil. On the whole, they will thrive in well-drained soil in a sunny position and look glorious in any garden. Whether you prefer a relaxed cottage garden style or more formal and co-ordinated planting, there will be an allium to suit you.

The single flowering stem of each bulb lasts for weeks and their seed heads have added value as they can be dried and used for decoration or, when left in situ, look great in the border on a cold and frosty morning.

Alliums bring fireworks in the summer and still contribute much appreciated structure to the border throughout

winter. There are plenty of colours available from purple, pink and blue to yellow and white. Plant sizes within the family vary considerably with tiny species available for rock gardens to the drum-stick types with stout upright stems topped with balls of colour.

The taller ones provide vertical interest and rounded symmetry to mixed areas of planting where other varieties are grown for their massive pompom-like flower heads that are almost the size of melons.

Look for the heaviest and largest ones for the best flowers and, as with other bulbs, plant them at a depth three to four times the diameter of the bulb.

They are widely available as young plants for immediate effect, but this will be more expensive so plant bulbs from now through to November to allow their root systems to develop over winter.

“
They bring fireworks in the summer and give structure in the winter

Pick of the crop

Allium giganteum

This allium is one of the tallest at 1.2m. It blossoms from June and produces flower balls the size of grapefruits which are made up of tiny, purple, star-shaped flowers.

**Allium cristophii**

Star of Persia is an impressive globe of beautiful starry violet flowers with a metallic sheen and looks equally great in the border or in a vase.

**Allium x hollandicum****'Purple Sensation'**

So dependable, this allium has rich, deep plum flower heads with a 10cm diameter. It is an excellent combination plant - try planting it with grasses or box for great effect.

**Allium 'Mount Everest'**

Another grapefruit-sized globe, but this time made up of a mass of white flowers on a strong stem. It towers at 1.2m and will complement brightly coloured planting beautifully.

**Allium 'Hair'**

And now time for something completely different - this is a most unusual looking allium. The small purple flowers have hair-like tendrils that extend out like the flower is having a bad hair day - great fun!



PLANT of the week

Aconitum 'Bressingham Spire'

The common name for this plant is monkshood, which is a pretty good description of the hooded violet flowers. It's a stalwart of the late-flowering herbaceous border, tall and elegant. But it does come with a health warning as all parts of the plants are very toxic if ingested and you should wear gloves if touching it. Grow in moisture-retentive, fertile soil, ideally in partial shade but it will do fine in the sun so long as the soil doesn't dry out. 'Bressingham Spire' is a good compact variety growing to 3ft. Taller varieties may need staking.



JOBS for the week

■ Get a head start with hardy annuals, and sow now. These can be sown in situ or in trays.

■ If you have an area set aside as meadow, it's time to give it its autumn chop. Cut as close to ground as possible and remove cuttings. This allows the light in and helps germination of new seeds.

■ Remove summer raspberry canes which have finished fruiting. Next year's fruit will be on the

fresh green canes and these need tying in to supports. No raspberries? Think about ordering them and other fruiting canes, such as blackberries, now as you can plant them in the dormant season this winter.

■ Dry days make good seed-collection days. Armed with a brown paper bag and pen, shake the seed into the bag and label. Many seeds can be sown fresh now or kept in a dry cool place for spring sowing.

■ It's a good time of year for soil improvement while the

earth is still pliable and not waterlogged - dig in your garden compost or fork in some well-rotted manure.

■ While the ground is still warm, it's a good time to plant herbaceous perennials. The soil is still warm, which encourages root growth before winter sets

in, and there's also sufficient moisture to hydrate them. By planting now, you give your plants a head start so that by spring they are

raring to go.

■ For the same reasons, it's also a good time to lift and divide perennials which have become congested and need some rejuvenation. They won't all like division - for example, those with long tap roots, such as cow parsley - and it's best to leave those that are flowering now, such as rudbeckia, to spring division. When replanting divisions or new perennials, give them a good soak and keep them well-watered to help them establish.



Rupert

Rupert and the Whale
EPISODE 16

Taking a well-thumbed book from his jacket pocket, Cap'n Binnacle tells the chums that he will look up the time of the next High Tide to see how much longer the whale will be stranded. There isn't one due for hours!" he groans.

"Tad and his friends will never be able to keep it cool for that long!" Rupert thinks hard, then asks him to come back to the cabin straightaway.

"No time to explain!" he says. "There are some things there we need. I've had a good idea!"

To order the New Rupert Bear Soft Toy (30cm - Rainbow Designs) at £14.99 please call 01872 562315; or order on www.classicrupertbearshop.com. UK P&P £4.95



"The next High Tide here isn't due For hours. There's nothing we can do!"



But Rupert thinks he knows a way To raise the tide at Rocky Bay...



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LET'S GO

TRAVEL



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Into the Valleys



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**GREAT
FEAT**
Peter
makes his
way up on
snowshoes



**ALPS
FRESCO**
Stephane
cooks the
Raclette

A ski safari in the stunning Swiss Alps brings thrills on and off the pistes for **Peter Fenton**

So there I am, hiking up a mountain, on snowshoes, in the dark, with a 30lb rucksack on my back... is this really a unique dinner experience, or did I accidentally sign up for TV reality show SAS Who Dares Wins?

Luckily there were no ambushes or extreme interrogations, and as for the backpack, well, we couldn't leave the wine behind, could we?

Our small party soon reached some picnic tables, and as the sun sank behind the Alps, our guide and chef

Stephane, who'd carried up the rest of the food and utensils, built a log fire and placed a half-wheel of Raclette cheese close to the flames.

This is the regional dish of Valais, in southwest Switzerland, and this is the traditional way to cook it, with layers of the delicious melted cheese continually scraped off to be served with potatoes or bread, silver skin onions and a glass (or two) of Fendant, the local white wine.

And what a way to enjoy it. Glancing up at a myriad glittering

stars, conversation tailed off for a moment, the silence broken only by the soft crackle of the wood fire.

Stephane fuelled the magic with a glass of Genepi, the local ju-ju juice flavoured with mountain herbs, and the descent home, with a considerably lighter pack, was a breeze.

The next morning, stepping out on the balcony of my room at the Hotel Nendaz 4 Vallee, the mountain peaks were sparkling white under a clear blue sky (the area boasts 300 days of sunshine a year) and the slopes of the

TURN TO PAGE 46

Cruise news

BY NIGEL THOMPSON

Save at sea with new extra-value packages and deals from P&O Cruises.

The line is offering boosted onboard spending money, a 10% deposit, and a £100 per person discount for voyages on new ship Arvia, which is set to debut in December.

Passengers can use the variable

increased spend against experiences including shore excursion, spa treatments or dining for selected itineraries up to October 29, 2024.

The 10% deposit is valid for selected bookings made by November 30, also for departures to October 29, 2024, but excludes world cruise and certain other long-haul trips. The Arvia saving is applicable for selected bookings between December 9, 2022 and September 29, 2024. Also must be made by November 30. pocruises.com

■ Holland America is the first cruise line to be certified for using sustainable and traceable wild Alaskan seafood.

All six ships that sail to The Last Frontier have been audited by Responsible Fisheries Management. HAL president Gus Antorcha said: "We've pledged to serve only local, sustainable, fresh seafood, and RFM certification is a crucial step in the commitment to sustainability we share with guests and fishing families of Alaska." hollandamerica.com

New
Showtime Tots
2023 breaks are now on offer at Butlin's in Minehead and Bognor Regis, aimed at families with younger children with headliners including Justin Fletcher or Mister Maker and activities such as Messy Play and Play-Doh Kitchen. Midweek £12.25 per person. butlins.com

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TRAVEL

Deals of the week

BY NIGEL THOMPSON

SHORT HAUL

Lanzarote from £759pp: Save up to £400pp on a seven-night B&B break at the five-star Princesa Yaiza Suite Hotel Resort near Playa Blanca. Includes flights from Gatwick on selected dates in December, 15kg baggage and transfers, book by September 30. tropicsky.co.uk

Greek islands from £615pp: Save £255pp on a week's half-board at the five-star MarBella Elix Hotel at Sivota, Lefkada. Fly from Bristol on October 16. olympicholidays.com

Ibiza from £519pp: Depart Leeds Bradford on October 13 for a seven-night half-board stay at the three-star azuline Hotel Bergantin at San Antonio Bay. Comes with 22kg baggage and transfers. jet2holidays.com

LONG HAUL

Mauritius from £999pp: Save £999pp on a week's all-inclusive at the three-star+ Coral Azur Beach Resort in Trou aux Biches. Fly from Heathrow on selected dates April-July 2023, with transfers. Book by September 30. bluebaytravel.co.uk

St Lucia from £946pp: A seven-night B&B stay at the four-star Harbor Club, Curio Collection by Hilton hotel in Rodney Bay comes with flights from Gatwick on September 27 and transfers. tui.co.uk

STAYCATION

Hampshire from £268: A four-night self-catering break in Burst of Blue accommodation (sleeps up to eight) at Mill Rythe Coastal Village in Hayling Island is for arrival on December 5. awayresorts.co.uk

Scottish Christmas markets from £79pp: A two-day coach break to Edinburgh and Glasgow departs on November 26 and December 3, 10 and 17 from selected pick-up points in the North of England. Includes one night and a three- or four-star hotel stay on B&B. justgoholidays.com

Sussex from £385: A two-night glamping break at Lunsford Farm, near Hastings, is for arrival on September 23 with accommodation in a canvas hideaway with ensuite toilet for up to five adults and one child. featherdown.co.uk

Devon from £359: Three nights at the luxury Grade II-listed refurbished Maritime Suites (sleeps two) in Brixham is for room-only midweek stays in September. luxurycoastal.co.uk

CRUISE

No-fly Norway, Sweden and Denmark from £581pp: Fred Olsen's Bolette departs Dover on September 21 for a six-night round trip to Oslo, Gothenburg and Copenhagen, saves £18pp. iglucruise.com

BUY OF THE WEEK

Turkey from £271pp: A week on all-inclusive at the four-star beachfront DG Hotels Rose Resort Kemer, near Antalya, departs from Stansted on October 31. onthebeach.co.uk

Prices correct at time of publication and based on two sharing unless stated otherwise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45

TUNNEL
Entrance
to Les
Chottes

ski resort of Nendaz were beckoning.

It is part of the 4 Valleys ski area, the largest in Switzerland with 400km of pistes stretching from small, quiet Thyon at the eastern end to the cosmopolitan chic of Verbier at the western end.

The best view of it, and a great deal more of the Alps, is from Mont Fort, the resort's highest peak at 3,330 metres. At the top of the cable car there's a viewing platform where you feel on top of the world with the distinctive Matterhorn in one direction and Mont Blanc in another. On the valley floor a long way below is the regional capital Sion, with the River Rhone flowing through it.

You can ski down from the top of Mont Fort but it's one of the area's steepest runs and with no fresh snow, the large moguls (bumps) were glistening with ice.

We sensibly took the cable car back down to the Black Tap restaurant, which serves excellent craft burgers.

You don't have to be an expert to enjoy the 4 Valleys. There are blue slopes for beginners and improvers around neighbouring Veysonnaz and Thyon, slightly more red slopes for intermediate-level skiers and a decent number of black graded slopes for the experts around Nendaz and Verbier.

Many have the latest snowmaking equipment so in these days of climate change and unpredictable conditions, there is still good quality skiing to be had.

For skiers and boarders looking for off-piste thrills, Verbier is famous and there are free ride routes marked across the 4 Valleys. We made our way down one of them, the Chassoure-Tortin, a long steep and bumpy run.

There were tumbles and protesting limbs... but a great sense of achievement and the respect of ski guide Ami, who coaxed everyone down safely.

Those aching muscles were soothed in the impressive spa at our four-star hotel, with its outdoor heated pool, sauna, Jacuzzi and steam rooms.

There was still time for a beer and an Aperol spritz just down the road at the bar, where a DJ whipped up the apres-ski crowd with vintage mixes.

Dinner was at Les Etagnes, a restaurant opposite the hotel, offering chicken or prawn Thai curry, rack of lamb, and beef fillet among its main courses, with a veggie or vegan curry option on request. Starters were £11 with mains from £25-£35. A dessert treat was Sgroppino, an Italian cocktail with vodka, lemon sorbet, prosecco and limoncello... not as alcoholic as it sounds but really delicious (£9).

Valais produces some excellent

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**NATURAL
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 air above
 Verbier



The full mont



DREAMY
 Nendaz
 4 Vallées



CLASSIC
 Roesti



TASTEFUL
 Sgroppino

ramps on the snow park above Thyon (no one volunteered for a freestyle demonstration after our two-hour lunch!) we headed to the top of the Piste de L'Ours, the custom built downhill race course.

At 2.3km long, with a 51% gradient in parts, and two big

jumps, it has hosted over 30 World Cup ski races as well as ski-cross and Paralympic ski competitions.

We didn't quite manage it in the two minutes the racers usually take – there were lots of turns and the occasional rest but I'm blaming the roesti and beer – but it is fabulous.

A quick gondola back up, then another red cruiser took us into Veysonnaz, with our hotel across the road from the lift station.

It's a compact, sleepy village but for families with young children and those who don't require a techno drumbeat to wind down after a day on the slopes, it is just fine.

The Chalet Royale has a large terrace with a view over the Rhone valley and we kicked back in the outdoor hot tub with a glass of prosecco as the sun went down on another great day in the mountains.

But after three hours on the snow we were hungry and thirsty. One more run down from Greppon, we found Restaurant les Chottes – rightly famous in the 4 Vallées and not to be missed. A former cheese farm, the interior is replete with wooden beams and cowbells.

Outside is an intriguing tunnel entrance in the wall of snow piled up at the side of the restaurant.

On the huge sun-trap terrace we settled down with beers and Fendant and shared an Assiette Valaisanne (£22), a platter with locally produced dried meat, cheese, cured sausage and rye bread.

I followed with the Roesti du Chasseur (£20), a Swiss classic of grated potato patty topped with cheese, bacon, tomato and egg.

It's not exactly cheap, but is far less than you'll pay in Verbier. The scenery is priceless and it was a reluctant band that returned through the tunnel to retrieve our skis for the rest of the afternoon.

There were still treats to come though. After checking out the

wine, though not enough to export in any quantity. Best value was a bottle of Petite Arvine white at £20.

The neighbouring resort of Veysonnaz was the next stage of our Ski Safari package, an option offered by 4 Vallées where you can split your stay between resorts.

While we hit the ski lifts, our luggage was taken to the Hotel Chalet Royale, 10 metres from the main Veysonnaz gondola and which offers another stunning panoramic view of the mountains from its bedrooms.

We made our way up a succession of lifts and skied down some wide flattering red slopes. Down into Siviez in the Valley de la Printse (one of the 4) and up to Greppon Blanc peak at 2,700 metres with a breathtaking view down into the Val des Dix.

At the peak is a signpost for l'Eteygeon, a free ride route where, when the snow is good, you can ski or board all the way down to the road that runs through the valley then catch a bus back into town.

“
**There were
 tumbles and
 protesting
 limbs... but a
 huge sense of
 achievement**”

Hotel of the week

BY MIKE WALTERS



Great Northern Hotel King's Cross, London

WHERE AND WHY

Station hotels are usually busy pit stops and the travellers' urgency can be more frenetic than the balls in a lottery tombola.

But wedged between King's Cross and St Pancras, a sweeping Grade II listed building from the golden age of steam achieves the unlikely feat of perfect calm. On a weekend when 40,000 boisterous football fans were piling down to the capital for a big match, inside the hotel, silence was golden.

Not once was the soundproofing among 88 en-suite bedrooms penetrated by the tribal hordes' lively playlist, let alone the echo of platform announcements.

There are four different categories, from the Couchette paying homage to the classic continental railway sleeper carriage, to the rich walnut panels of Edwardian rooms on the top floor, bespoke leather furniture in the Heritage chambers and opulent luxury of Victorian bedrooms celebrating the building's history.

In our Victorian, the high ceiling made a generous double room feel airy and bright, and the Albion standalone bath tub was deep enough to go scuba-diving. All rooms contain USB ports, continental plug sockets and HD TV with Google Chromecast streaming option. And for connoisseurs of bathroom toiletries, the Malin + Goetz range is nearer Harrods than corner shop in the pantheon of complimentary soap.



ON THE MENU

Named after the Flying Scotsman's dining cars in the 19th century, the Plum + Spilt Milk is a brasserie-style restaurant illuminated by 150 hand-blown glass lanterns.

If the food makes you feel like the earth has moved, you're right: The black tables are made from cracked lava from Mount Etna.

As a lifelong pescatarian, it would have been rude to ignore a menu with intriguing seafood dishes, and the Dorset crab salad (£14) was lighter and fluffier than a hummingbird.

For main course, it was posh fish and chips. At £31 a head, the sea bream was succulent, the seared chalkstream trout was divine.

The Portuguese house white, Esporao Reserve (£25), was quaffable and resplendent. Eton Mess (£10) was spot-on for dessert.

For pre-dinner drinks or a nightcap, the GNH Bar's Belle Epoque interior is a decadent setting for cocktails.

WHILE YOU'RE THERE

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BOOK IT

4 Vallées offers a guided ski safari with four nights in Nendaz and four nights in Veysonnaz, with a six-day ski pass, equipment rental and luggage transfers from £1,176 per person. valais.ch

MORE INFO

myswitzerland.com



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Buy one of these Vauxhall Corsa-e anniversary editions, and Vauxhall will throw in four pairs of new socks. They're a snazzy tartan and thanks to the company's generosity in bunging some in our test car, I'm wearing mine now.

The Corsa-e anniversary edition celebrates 40 years of the Corsa. But those of us with good memories will know that although Opel always called its small hatchback the Corsa, in the UK the car started its life as the Nova and became the Corsa in 1993.

In the 1980s, Vauxhall invented the concept of the "warm hatchback" when it launched the Nova SR. The SR provided some of the glamour of hot hatches of the day but not the power or the insurance premium. You got sports seats in the SR that were trimmed in tartan cloth. Hence the socks.

Two pairs of your free socks are in that design and the others are in the tartan check used in the 2022 anniversary edition. They will go down fine at the golf club.

The eagle eyed among you will have spotted the lower case e after Corsa in its name. That means electric in Vauxhall's badging system. So a 50kWh battery, a range of up to 222 miles and 100kW rapid charging.

Vauxhall will only be making 1,000 versions for the UK market (and presumably 4,000 pairs of socks),



Sock 'n' roll

Corsa-e looking good at 40... with odd extras

THE FACTS

Vauxhall Corsa-e 40th anniversary

Price: £31,000

Engine: Electric motor

Power: 136PS

Torque: 260Nm

Top speed: 115mph

0-62mph: 7.6 seconds

Range: 220 miles

For: Stylish socks (and car)

Against: Boot is a bit small

Sum up: Corsas are popular - and for good reason

which sounds a lot but isn't so many when you consider that the Corsa is a huge seller with tens of thousands of them leaving the forecourts each year.

Obviously free socks is not a sufficient draw for you to buy a special edition car so here's some other special features that might sway you. It comes exclusively in Record Red - a metallic finish inspired by the Carmine Red used on the original Nova.

The Corsa-e anniversary looks neat in this colour, especially as also included is a black roof, black grille with black Vauxhall griffin badge and black "Corsa" lettering across the tailgate. Topped off by 17in gloss black alloys with grey inserts.

Inside are sports seats trimmed in the new tartan design. I'm a sucker for this sort of thing and prefer cloth seats to leather. Not that the anniversary Corsa-e is lean on the options: heated seats and steering

wheel, power folding mirrors and rear parking sensors are all included. The on-the-road price for all this is £31,000.

Just to remind you, as it's a couple of years since we first wrote about the electric Corsa, here's the basics.

You have three driving modes in front of you: Normal, which allows you 107bhp; Eco which gives you 81bhp and Sport which serves up the full 134bhp. The car starts in Normal and that's the best one to keep it in,

unless you really want to run the battery down quickly and regularly use the Corsa-e's 7.6 seconds 0-60mph sprinting ability.

Eco is the mode to use if you're on a long journey and absolutely need to string out the range.

The Corsa-e is essentially the same car as the Peugeot e-208 but with a less interesting interior. The added tartan of this Corsa and its cool-looking exterior makes up for this. And there's the free socks of course.

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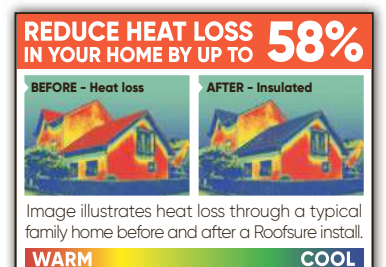
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FINANCIAL

SUNDAY EXPRESS

EDITED BY GEOFF HO



Pair's pet project is set to double in size

FAST-growing healthy pet food maker Scrumbles says it is set to double in size this year, despite the squeeze on its household finances.

Co-founders Jack Walker and Aneisha Soobroyen said Scrumbles is benefiting from people taking more care over pets' diets. At the same time, its mass-market rivals are increasing their prices, while it is trying to minimise its own. "We're optimistic because fundamentally, people care

more about their pets' diets than they do about their own," Walker said.

Soobroyen added: "We are forecasting 100 per cent growth this year.

"Mass market brands are shifting up the price ladder, so the price gap between us and them has narrowed and we are definitely benefiting."

The pair said that while pet food is relatively resistant to consumer spending pressures, companies within the sector

are struggling to get to grips with the cost of raw materials.

Soobroyen, who started her career at rival Iams, said: "It used to be you would have a conversation with suppliers about costs every two to three weeks. It is really difficult to lock in prices."

Scrumbles started trading four years ago. The couple set the business up after creating recipes to suit the sensitive stomachs of their cat and dog.

SUPER BOWL:
Scrumbles' founders say owners take great care over their pets' diets

Energy prices freeze to ease recession risk

CONSUMER price index inflation rose by just 0.1 points last month to 10.2 per cent, temporarily easing the squeeze on household finances, official data will show on Wednesday.

Additionally, the day before, economists expect the Office for National Statistics to report that the average earnings growth rate, including bonuses, went up 0.1 points to 5.2 per cent. However, they say the respite from rising inflation will be temporary, as home energy prices will rocket in October.

Energy regulator Ofgem was due to increase its default tariff price cap by 80 per cent to £3,549 next month. However, last week, new Prime Minister Liz Truss said the price cap will be frozen at £2,500 for the next two years, as part of an energy rescue package that could cost more than £150 billion.

As a result, economists now believe that CPI inflation will

By Geoff Ho

peak at around 11 per cent, rather than 15 per cent plus. Additionally, they say the incoming energy support bill has significantly cut the chances of Britain going into recession.

"The proposed household cap is generous, so should reduce the risk of the economy falling into recession, as well as helping to ease the uncertainty which has surrounded its prospects," said Martin Beck, chief economic adviser to the EY ITEM Club think tank.

"We now expect CPI inflation to peak below 11 per cent in October, rather than 15 per cent or so which might have materialised. A lower peak for inflation may dampen inflation expectations among the public, a development which would reassure the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)." Pantheon Macroeconomics

chief UK economist Samuel Tombs predicted that inflation will drop back to 10 per cent by January, 5 per cent in June and then to 2 per cent – the MPC's official target – towards the end of next year.

As a result, he thinks the MPC will only need to raise its base rate twice more as part of its bid to tame inflation.

The MPC raised its base rate by half a point to 1.75 per cent last month and had been expected to raise it on Thursday to 2.25 per cent. That would have been its highest level since November 2008, when the bank rate was 3 per cent.

However, due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth, the Bank has decided to move its announcement to September 22.

Tombs said: "Government interventions effectively stabilise demand in the economy; they do not represent fiscal stimulus that the MPC must counter."

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DAILY EXPRESS

COMMENT



GEOFF HO

PRIME Minister Liz Truss and her energy support package have probably saved Britain from a deep, scarring recession, but economic pain is sadly inevitable.

The cost-of-living crisis, combined with ongoing high commodities prices, logistical problems, the aftermath of Covid and post-Brexit red tape hindering trade is likely to result in a recession.

Consumer spending has been

squeezed hard, with real earnings eroded. As a result, it will not be able to support the economy and help power it out of the doldrums.

One thing that Truss and her ministers can do to help cut the forthcoming pain is publish details of the help businesses will get as soon as possible.

Firms cannot afford to wait for an emergency Budget later this month. They are planning for next year, 2024 and beyond. Based on their

circumstances, they are preparing for the worst.

They are looking at cost cuts, slashing or axing investment and jobs, and in some instances, even closing.

Truss and her team need to put details of the business energy package out quickly to bolster business confidence. If they do this, it will protect jobs, trade and reduce the impact of the impending recession.

Time is of the essence.
● geoff.ho@express.co.uk

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Retail giant's dire forecast on store cuts

HIGH energy bills and economic uncertainty have prompted one of Britain's largest retailers to look at fresh cost cuts, including store closures, its chairman said.

He said although government plans to cap energy costs for businesses and consumers were welcome and would prevent consumer price index inflation from hitting 20 per cent, all its other costs are still rising, from raw materials to staff wages to shipping and transportation.

As a result, he said the retailer has started scrutinising its cost base and that having closed a number of loss-making stores over the past three years, it will look at its remaining outlets to see if they are viable.

"We need to cut our costs and we've started looking at everything," he said – declining to be named as the firm is in the early stages of looking at

By **Geoff Ho**

where and how it can save money. Elsewhere, John Lewis is scheduled to unveil its half-year results on Thursday.

Independent retail analyst Nick Bubb said that while like-for-like sales at its department stores are likely to be "broadly flat" for the six months to the end of July, group results will be weighed down by underperformance at its Waitrose supermarket division.

According to data from Kantar Worldpanel, Waitrose's market share fell from 5.1 per cent to 4.5 per cent in the first half. Bubb said: "The reversal in online grocery sales in the industry will have hurt Waitrose."

"We wouldn't be surprised by a fall of over 5 per cent in overall first half like-for-like sales at Waitrose, along with gross margin pressure."

Ocado to deliver news on growth

OCADO chief Tim Steiner is tipped to say it is on the right track at its trading update this week, despite losing more than £1 billion since 2000.

The online supermarket operator and retail technology group has only made an annual profit three times since it was founded at the start of the century and has lost its shareholders more than £1.1 billion net.

At its third quarter trading update on Tuesday, Steiner is tipped to say it finally has the foundations for growth in place.

However, one sceptical City investor said: "Ocado shareholders have had to be incredibly patient, as it keeps promising jam tomorrow. However, 10 years on [from flotation] we are still no closer to jam."



ON TRACK: Will Ocado prosper at last?

SMEs say they can't bank on traditional lenders any more

LEADERS of more than a quarter of small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) say they have had difficulty getting finance from the big banks, according to research from Sonovate.

The finance and payment solutions provider said 38 per cent of SME business owners say banks do not understand their needs, while 41 per cent believe banks' lending policies have not kept pace with their needs.

It added more than a third of the 500 SME owners it surveyed said banks do not provide them with any service or support beyond lending.

"It is evident that business owners across the country are struggling to

access finance through traditional means," said Sonovate co-founder and co-chief executive Richard Prime.

Although the UK is a hotspot for innovative financial technology companies and alternative lenders, Sonovate said it appears few SMEs use them, as only 5 per cent secured a loan or accessed invoice finance from one in the past 12 months.

Sonovate said that businesses which have used non-traditional forms of finance instead have seen real benefits. Three quarters said invoice financing tools had greatly benefited their business, while 64 per cent said transactions were faster.

By **Harvey Jones**

THE HEAT is off British households by a degree or two, following Prime Minister Liz Truss's decision to cap the typical energy bill at £2,500 for the next two years.

The measure will save the average household about £1,000 a year, and comes on top of the £400 of support for all homes announced by former Chancellor Rishi Sunak in June.

Yet this will still be a tough winter for millions, as the new Energy Price Guarantee is still almost double last October's £1,277 energy cap.

Winter bills are still going to hurt as the war in Ukraine drags on, and Russia's leader Vladimir Putin cuts off gas supplies to Europe.

There will be another knock-on effect of the latest rescue package too, as ministers hope it will reduce the rate of inflation by between four and five per cent, and that will affect our finances in unexpected ways.

JUST KEEPING UP

Lower inflation will be good news for everybody, but in particular, pensioners living off fixed incomes.

They have been hit hard by Sunak's decision to suspend the state pension triple lock mechanism for the 2022/23 tax year.

This handed state pensioners a pay rise of just 3.1 per cent – a fraction of the inflation rate, which the Bank of England expects to hit 13.3 per cent in October.

With the triple lock restored, next year's state pension increase will be based on September's inflation figure, which before Ms Truss stood up in Parliament, looked like delivering yet more bad news for pensioners.

While it was likely to give them a record-breaking double-digit pay rise, the big inflation leap was due in October, when the energy price cap was set to jump more than 80 per cent to £3,549.

By spring, inflation could have been raging at 18 per cent, Citibank predicted. That would have left pensioners massively out of pocket again, as next April's increase would not reflect the jump in energy bills.

If Ministers are right and inflation slows, the triple lock pension hike might just about keep up with prices.

PENSION CREDITS

Any celebrations could be muted, though, as pensioners will still be paying the price of Sunak's triple lock suspension for 2022/23.

That cost them up to £486 in lost state pension, which will never be recovered as it has set a lower baseline for future increases.

Many pensioners still face "miserable months of financial and personal hardship" despite the energy price freeze, said Dr Carole Easton, chief executive of the Centre For Ageing Better.

Easton is calling on the Government to redouble its efforts to raise awareness around state pension top-up Pension Credit: "Around 800,000 of the poorest pensioners are still missing out on the additional cost-of-living support this provides."

Easton also said the Government must use a two-year window of energy price stability to deal with the fundamental problem of "the huge

Rescue plan, but winter is still going to be tough

amount of energy wasted through poor-quality, draughty homes". A retrofit programme to make homes more energy efficient is vital, she said.

RATE SHOCK?

If the Energy Price Guarantee does cut inflation, it could also help keep a lid on interest rates. Last Thursday, the European Central Bank shocked markets as it increased interest rates by 0.75 per cent.

If the BoE follows suit on Thursday, that would lift UK bank rate from 1.75 per cent to 2.50 per cent. Yet if inflation does fall back, interest rates may rise at a slower pace, which would keep a lid on mortgage rates and protect the property market.

Halifax's latest figures show that house prices rose 11.5 per cent in the year to August, but transactions and mortgage approvals are slowing.

Karen Noye, mortgage expert at Quilter, said the housing market is showing resilience in the face of the cost-of-living crisis but warned: "Cracks may be starting to appear as inflation and base rates soar."

Those cracks may now be papered over, for better or worse. Avinav Nigam, co-founder of real estate technology platform Immo, said the overheated property market needs cooling but that now

seems less likely: "We have an acute shortage of properties for sale or rent which are affordable, of good quality, and in places people want to live."

Expectations of higher inflation and savings interest rates have been baked in, but now we may need to rethink our assumptions.

TAX ISSUE

Truss may also need to rethink her assumptions about cutting taxes. She may struggle to reduce the burden as her uncapped energy price freeze could add a staggering £150 billion to the national debt.

While a bold and necessary step, it looks as though the move will be paid for through general taxation.

Cutting taxes will not be easy if she also has to tackle a mounting public deficit. Especially since there is no guarantee energy prices will have fallen back by the time her two-year freeze ends.

The Government could find itself clawing back last week's help at a time when energy bills are still high.

Truss said the package has given the nation "breathing space". That is one thing she does not have herself.

BUYING TIME: Liz Truss says her energy plan will give UK 'breathing space'



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POLYANTHUS CRESCENDO			£	£
BONUS OFFER: PANSY RASPBERRY SUNDAE			£	£
BONUS OFFER: VIOLA CITRUS SORBET MIXED			£	£
P&P				£4.99
TOTAL DUE			£	

I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to 'Express Garden'. Please write your name and address on the back of your cheque and use blue or black ink.

Or please debit my... Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Maestro card ☐

Card no

Iss no (if Maestro) Valid from Exp date

Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ First name Surname

Address Postcode

Daytime tel no Date

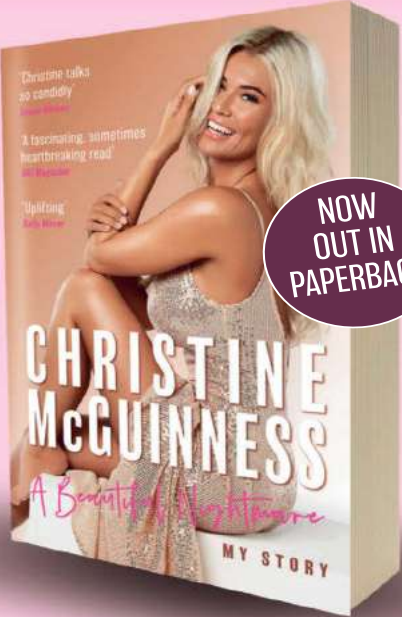
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Left behind by digital

FIVE-MINUTE GUIDE TO... SAVERS BEING FORCED ONLINE

By **Harvey Jones**

THE big banks and National Savings & Investments (NS&I) are locking elderly and vulnerable savers out of today's best buy savings rates by reserving their top deals for customers who operate their accounts online.

Even though savings rates are finally starting to recover after more than a decade in the doldrums, pensioners are failing to feel the benefit.

This is a blow for the elderly who are less likely to be internet savvy but who rely on their savings to top up their pension income.

The new breed of "challenger banks" now offer the best savings rates, such as Charter Savings Bank, Ford Money and Shawbrook Bank.

Al Rayan pays a best-buy 2.10 per cent on easy access and United Trust Bank's one-year fixed rate bond pays a market-leading 3.35 per cent.

Less familiar names are paying more than 20 times the interest of many branch-based accounts from the high street, said Sarah Coles, senior personal finance analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown.

Yet there is a catch, as they are typically only available online or via a mobile phone app, rather than telephone, post or branch. "Al Rayan Bank's deals have to be managed online, while Gatehouse Bank's are only available online or via



NOT APPY: Best deals are web-only

an app. Atom, Tandem and Zopa are app-only banks."

Some top competitive rates are exclusive to savings platforms like Raisin and Active Savings, which again, can only be accessed online. Coles added: "The most competitive one-year fixed-rate accounts right now are all web-only, from banks including Charter, Close Brothers, Gatehouse Bank, Secure Trust Bank and SmartSave Bank," she said.

Savers who cannot get online or use a banking app rely on high street banks to offer competitive rates, but they are failing to do so. "High street savings rates have barely moved, despite the Bank of England hiking rates from 0.1 per cent to 1.75 per cent," said Coles.

The big banks prefer to boost profit margins rather than win new customers.

"Savers hanging on for the high street banks to catch up could be in for a very long wait," Coles added.

Anna Bowes, founder of savings rate tracking service Savings Champion, said all of the top five easy-access accounts and most fixed-term bonds are online only: "Savers who prefer traditional channels such as post, telephone or branch risk missing out."

Yet Bowes said it is still possible to get a good rate from a postal, telephone or branch account from Paragon Bank, Kent Reliance, Darlington Building Society, Monmouthshire Building Society and Leeds Building Society. "And Al Rayan and Charter sometimes offer a postal option."

Bowes said today's top non-online account is Charter Savings Bank's one-year, fixed-rate bond. It pays 3.25 per cent online or by post.

The key is to avoid the high street banks, which are nowhere to be found among the top rates, Bowes added: "Smaller banks are just as safe provided they are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme, which protects the first £85,000 of your savings."

AJ Bell head of personal finance Laura Suter said even NS&I is pushing customers online, as it aims to make 85 per cent of customer transactions on the web in the next year. "Just three of its seven account types can be opened and managed by post, blocking older people and those who aren't digitally savvy from using the government's savings service."

NS&I's Premium Bonds and Income Bonds can still be operated by post, but Green Savings bond, Direct Saver, Direct ISA and JISA cannot, although all but the JISA can be managed via phone.

Best personal finance and mortgage deals

Source: Moneyfacts.co.uk Rates correct at 8:00am 9th September 2022

Current Accounts		
CURRENT ACCOUNTS WITH CREDIT INTEREST OR REWARD		
Provider	Account	AER or Amount Paid
Halifax	Reward Current Account	£5 pm A
Nationwide BS	FlexDirect	5.00% B
TSB	Spend & Save	£5 pm B
Virgin Money	M Plus Account	2.02%

Personal Loans			
PERSONAL LOANS - BASED ON £10,000 OVER 5 YEARS			
Provider	APR	Monthly Repayment	Total Amount Repayable
cahoot	3.1%	£179.94	£10,796.40
Tesco Bank	3.2%	£180.37	£10,822.20
Post Office Money®	3.2%	£180.37	£10,822.20
MBNA Limited	3.4%	£181.24	£10,874.40

Credit Cards			
PURCHASE CREDIT CARDS			
Provider	Product Name	0% Period	APR
Sainsbury's Bank	Dual Offer CC Mastercard	24 mths	21.9%
M&S Bank	Shopping Plus Offer Mastercard	24 mths	21.9%
Barclaycard	Platinum All-Rounder Visa	24 mths	22.9%
Tesco Bank	Clubcard CC Purchases Mastercard	23 mths	21.9%

Mortgages					
SHORT TERM FIXED RATES					
Provider	Initial Rate	Period	Max LTV	Fee	Redemption Charge
Penrith BS	3.49%	for 2 years	90%	£999	1st 2 yrs
Skipton BS	3.86%	to 30.11.24	60%	Nil	To 30.11.24
Skipton BS	3.67%	to 30.11.25	75%	£995	To 30.11.25
Skipton BS	3.96%	to 30.11.25	90%	£995	To 30.11.25



A = Paid net of income tax. **B** = Introductory rate for a limited period.

All rates and terms are subject to change without notice and should be checked before finalising any arrangement. No liability can be accepted for any direct or consequential loss arising from the use of, or reliance upon, this information. Readers who are not financial professionals should seek expert advice.

Visit moneyfacts.co.uk for full details.

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*UK Market data Jan 2021 – Dec 2021 (by sales volume), tested in boost mode on carpet according to IEC 62885-4:2020 part 5.3. For further information email claimsinfo@vax.co.uk **UK Market data Jan 2021 – Dec 2021 (by sales volume), tested in boost mode on carpets and hard floors according to IEC 62885-2:2016 parts 5.2 and 5.3. For further information email claimsinfo@vax.co.uk †Tested in standard power mode on hard floor, with floor brush switched off. ‡Tested according to EN60312-1:2017 Clause 5.11. ΔMaximum suction power, tested in boost mode according to IEC 62885-2:2016 clause 5.8. Orders before 5pm Monday-Friday, next day delivery available. Offer only while stocks last.

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JMK27



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Mairi25



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ALPHAPUZZLE®

Alphapuzzle® tests your logic and word power. Each grid number represents a letter. Each letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start.

Can you beat the Target Time? Call for an Extra Letter Clue if you get stuck. Solution next Sunday.

DIFFICULTY: 10/10; TARGET TIME: 30 minutes; CLUE: Striker engaged in rumba, tap etc.

16	12	8	6	25	5	13	16			16			
	20			20			3	8	13	15	12	18	
9	17	8	11	3	13		17			20		13	
	25			16		14	13	11	5	20	6	16	
4	6	11	16	18		20				19		7	
6				20	15	6	16			13		3	
7		22	11	3		8		16	11	24		11	
13		11			16	15	20	23				15	
3		8			13			11	5	20	26	3	
6	8	9	13	15	12	17		8			8		
24		11			20		7	10	25	11	7	8	
13	1	7	5	13	24			13			11		
		15				11	11	8	24	2	11	8	21
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
	V	T											
14													

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

For extra letter clues, call:

0907 181 2603

(Deduct two minutes from Target Time for each extra letter used). Alternatively, for six extra letter clues direct to your mobile, text: **SXALPHA to 64343**. Texts cost £1 plus your normal network operator rate. Full solution: **0907 181 2602**

Across only: **0907 181 2600**

Down only: **0907 181 2601**

*Calls cost 80p a minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, London W1B 2AG.

Last Sunday's solution
ACROSS: Uneasy, Cupola, Stadium, Glide (clue), Shed, Brink, Zooms, Burn, Whoop, Tactful, Squats, Swills.
DOWN: Subsist, Swish, Relaxes, Bosun, Aspic, Towpath, Impromptu, Judging, Scowl, Solid, Buffalo, Vases, Analyst.

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THE ULTRA ALPHAPUZZLE®

Here's the Ultra Alphapuzzle® – Sunday's extra tough version of Britain's favourite wordpower challenge. Each grid number represents a different letter. All 26 letters are used.

Target time: 30 minutes Solution next Sunday.

	13		10		6		13			14		
	3	25	21	10	8	13	3		6	15	22	16
	9		26		7		6		8		23	
26	23	18	24		16	5	23	4	3	18	26	20
	6				8		2		17		2	
19	3	18	1	5	20		25	5	21	3	10	1
			8						10			
9	26	8	5	21	18		16	3	1	5	23	20
	21		1		8		3				13	
22	18	12	22	10	1	26	20		10	23	11	3
	19		5		21		8		8		21	
9	3	1	3		6	8	18	6	22	10	10	
	5				3		13		26		3	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

For up to six extra clue letters call:

0907 181 2607

(Deduct three minutes from Target Time for each extra letter heard). Alternatively, for six extra clues direct to your mobile, text **SXALPHAU to 64343**. Texts cost £1 plus your normal network rate. Full solution: **0907 181 2611**

Across only: **0907 181 2609**

Down only: **0907 181 2610**

*Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.

Last Sunday's solution
ACROSS: Briefly, Join, Mazy, Exposure, Snatch, Aviary, Remits, Preach, Fracture, Dunk, Tidy, Arrival.
DOWN: Obtain, Earwig, Wily, Twitchy, Afresh, Squeak, Myopia, Poetry, Jasmine, Dive, Mirror, Candle.

THINKING SPACE

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ULTIMATE ALPHABEATER

Can you crack the super-tough Ultimate Alphabeater? Each grid number represents a letter – or black square. As in Alphapuzzle, every letter of the alphabet is used. But you have to complete the grid too! Use the given letters and black squares below the main grid to start. Alphabeater is 'rotationally symmetrical' – in other words it looks exactly the same if you turn the page upside down. Solution next Sunday.

A	28	17	18	7	17	37	16	22	19	28	35	24	39
B													
C	3	16	22	33	26	10	6	28	18	37	8	17	40
D													
E	29	1	31	40	21	30	18	32	26	29	3	2	36
F													
G	36	29	14	19	14	26	38	2	1	38	6	10	25
H													
I	20	13	16	24	23	14	16	30	16	33	2	15	28
J													
K	38	4	12	10	6	28	18	1	8	10	35	4	33
L													
M	15	8	9	2	22	32	16	32	28	35	33	31	7
N													
O	2	21	40	38	31	13	34	16	24	18	16	17	23
P													
Q	7	2	14	28	35	36	28	22	8	1	25	24	27
R													
S	36	21	13	4	34	14	4	7	35	28	28	5	28
T													
U	28	11	40	16	33	28	10	20	34	15	6	34	33
V													
W	22	31	10	12	8	9	23	31	39	2	37	20	33
X													
Y	16	13	37	14	2	33	5	26	23	14	31	21	26
Z													

Target time: 46 minutes
Stuck getting started?
Try one of our helplines *Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.

Full solution:
0907 181 2598
Across only:
0907 181 2596
Down only:
0907 181 2597

Last Sunday's Solution:
Black squares: 1, 5, 8, 10, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 33, 38.
Across: Light, Training, Opium, Index, Quadratic, Rip, Blow, Jerk, You, Freestyle, Abhor, Bijou, Frenzied, Vexed.
Down: Imp, Bark, Ambush, Hound, Froze, Crafty, Reflex, Civic, Twice, Darkly, Once, Ode.

For up to six extra letters call 0907 181 2599 (Deduct five minutes from Target Time for each extra letter heard). Callers will also hear two black squares clues free of any Target Time penalty. *Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390

Alternatively, for six extra letter clues direct to your mobile, text **SXBEAT to 64343** Texts cost £1 plus your usual network operator rate. Reduce Target Time by five minutes for each extra letter

● Puzzle phone and text services SP: Spoke, London W1B 2AG

*SP: Spoke - Helpline 0333 202 3390

BRAIN TEASERS

1) Jill is struggling to lay out her photo album. 'I cannot have a red background for the page with holiday photos, or on page one, which is not the holiday photo page. The white background must be used before the page with baby photos, and the gold background cannot be used for page two. Either page three or the page with birthday photos must use a red background, but not both.' If each page has a different colour background, what colour must each of the three pages use?

2) Which two words meaning 'view' and 'leaf' combine into one meaning 'leakage'?

3) Find the casino games in these anagrams:
a) Provoke Die, b) Eel Tutor, c) Hamlet Coins.

4) Rob, Sam and Tim are playing a video game by turns. Rob plays first and scores eight times the square of the highest single-digit number. Sam plays second and scores 125% of Rob's score. Tim plays last, and his score increases the average score by 57 points. What did each player score?

ANSWERS: 1) Page one gold, page two white, page three red. 2) See page 3. 3) a) Video poker, b) Roulette, c) Slot machine. 4) Rob 648 points, Sam 810 points, Tim 900 points.

SUDOKU

Fill the small squares so that every column, every row, and every 3x3 square includes all of the digits from 1 to 9

				8		2	
		8	2		9	4	
		9	5		1	8	
4	8					1	
	1	5	7		8	9	6
	7					5	
6		4	8		7	3	
		2	3		6	5	7
				9			

Level: Gentle
Target: 16 minutes
For extra clues call

0901 322 5600

(Calls cost 77p per call from a BT landline plus network extras, other networks and mobiles may vary)
For today's full solution call

0907 181 2606

(Calls cost 77p per minute from BT landlines plus network extras, other networks and mobiles may vary).

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION

1	6	3	8	9	4	2	5	7
4	5	9	6	2	7	3	8	1
2	7	8	3	1	5	6	9	4
6	2	4	7	3	9	5	1	8
5	9	1	4	6	8	7	2	3
3	8	7	2	5	1	4	6	9
9	4	6	1	7	2	8	3	5
7	3	5	9	8	6	1	4	2
8	1	2	5	4	3	9	7	6

THE SKELETON CROSSWORD – £325 in prizes

Last week's solution

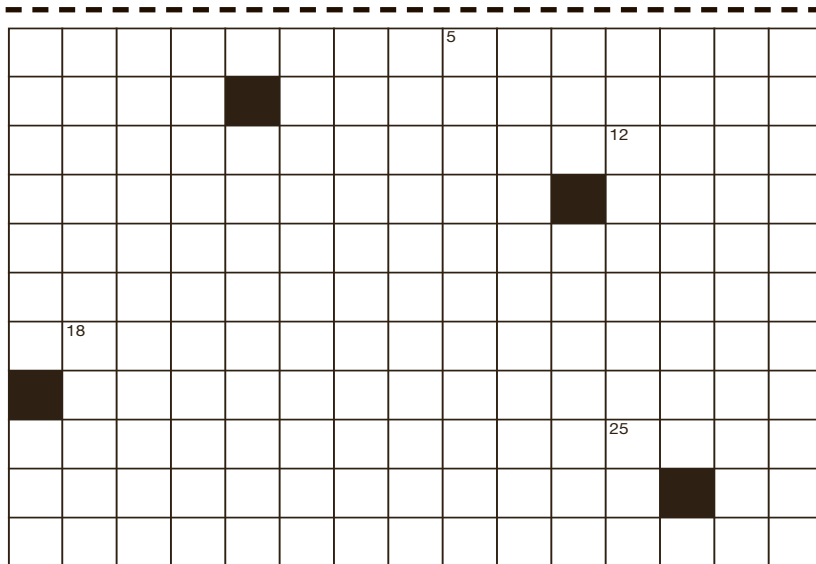


WINNERS: General Knowledge Crossword, August 28: £1,000: J Eccles, Blackburn. £50 Mystery Word Bonus: S Grant, Torquay. Skeleton Crossword, August 28: £100: S Williams, Weston-super-Mare. £25: A Morrow, Larne, Northern Ireland; R Isaac, Kingsbury, London; D Keating, Beeford, Yorkshire; K Clarke, Sawtry, Cambs; R Robinson, Ashington, Northumberland; G Thomas, Llandysul, Ceredigion; S Vanstone, Bristol; B Bragg, Hartland, Bideford; P Borland, Bramley, Leeds. £50 Mystery Word Bonus: D Dobbs, Marshchapel, Grimsby. WINNERS: Please allow 30 days to receive your prize.

THINKING SPACE

There is a £100 prize for the first correct solution drawn; nine runners-up receive £25.

Send your completed crossword to the address shown in the box below left. In the skeleton crossword, the black squares and clue numbers have to be filled in as well as the words. Four black squares and four clue numbers have been inserted to give you a start. The black squares form a symmetrical pattern; the top half matches the bottom, and the two sides correspond. You can fill in 12 more squares at once to correspond with those given.



Send to: Skeleton Crossword,
PO Box 12578, Sutton
Coldfield B73 9BT. The winners
will be the first correct entries
drawn after the closing date of
noon on Friday. Please allow
30 days for prizes to arrive.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

ACROSS

- 1 Book about to help
- 5 Scary singer flipped over a little flaw
- 9 Girl an alien thanks
- 10 Failing circuits lead to exasperation
- 12 Top graduate at home
- 13 Forthright Conservative with papers
- 14 Attack two animals from behind
- 16 Empty tavern entered by ace engineer
- 17 Still in charge, succeeding immediately
- 20 Sign water isn't frozen
- 23 Back-to-front slates break
- 24 Ben is becoming a playwright
- 25 Space around wild upland
- 26 Partygoers initially don't like attending
- 27 Bad pose by good advocate

DOWN

- 2 More old-time soldiers
- 3 Engineer grounds beast
- 4 Farewell speech of valley girls?
- 6 Officers place lodgers
- 7 An imitator is following Ms Church
- 8 Refuse to eat salty starter and leave
- 11 Star short of lire splits French capital
- 13 Firm core of unusual lettuce
- 15 English rose disheartened before
- 18 Caregiver taken in by a rock singer
- 19 Some pretty pessimistic people
- 21 Speed of one filling in a hole
- 22 Source of comfort to many fools

£50 Mystery Word Bonus

Ring 0901 322 5301 for a chance to win £50. Give the correct answer to **26 Across** leaving your name and address. *Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by noon on Thursday.

THE £1,000 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD
CAN BE FOUND INSIDE S MAGAZINE

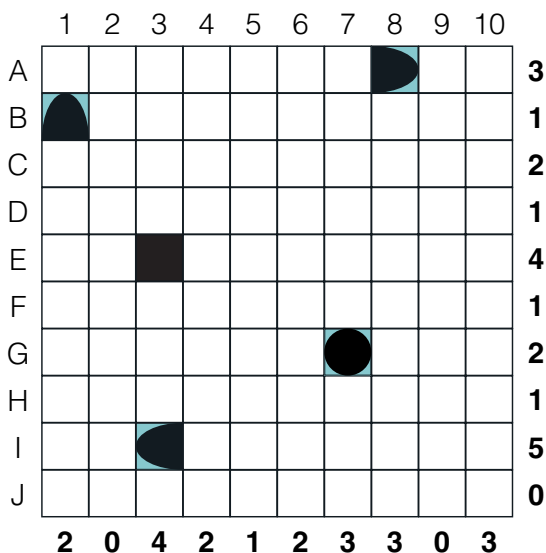
PUB QUIZ

1. Which 2008 film stars Shia LaBeouf as Mutt Williams, the long-lost son of the film's central character who is played by Harrison Ford?
2. Sharleen Spiteri is the lead singer of which Scottish rock band, whose hits include Say What You Want and In Our Lifetime?
3. Which British tennis player won the Wimbledon women's singles title in 1977?
4. Which American general, who later became president, crossed the Delaware river on the night of December 25th, 1776, in preparation for a surprise attack?
5. Jimson Weed/White Flower No. 1, the most expensive painting by a woman to be sold at auction, is by which American artist?
6. Sweet Bird Of Youth and The Night Of The Iguana are works by which playwright?
7. Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin' is the opening number of which Rodgers and Hammerstein musical?
8. Which sitcom starred Miley Cyrus as a teenage girl who leads a double life as a famous pop singer?
9. Which 2003 film stars Leonardo DiCaprio, right, as Amsterdam Vallon, who is seeking revenge against his father's killer, played by Daniel Day-Lewis?
10. 'On a dark desert highway' is the opening line of which song by The Eagles?



THEME: US states
ANSWERS: 1 Indiana Jones And The Kingdom Of The Crystal Skull 2 Texas 3 Virginia 4 George Washington 5 Georgia 6 Tennessee 7 Oklahoma 8 Hannah Montana 9 Gangs Of New York 10 Hotel California.

BATTLESHIPS



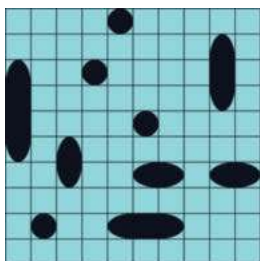
1 x Battleship

2 x Cruiser

3 x Destroyer

4 x Submarine

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION



FIND where the fleet of ships shown is hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some squares have been filled in to start you off.

THE SUNDAY CRUSADER AND HIS SQUIRE

The Crusader's clues

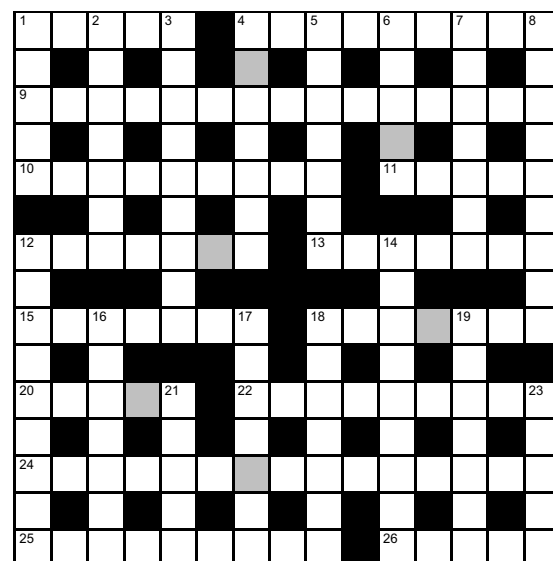
ACROSS

- 1 One turns a bit boring (5)
- 4 Greek letter with a slim envelope to burn (3,6)
- 9 Many an M1 breakdown (1,8,3,3)
- 10 Terrible tonic cast orders (9)
- 11 Shock tactics lead to arrest (5)
- 12 Diver now faces waterfront in anger (7)
- 13 Some unloaded island produce (7)
- 15 Old printing apparatus, say (7)
- 18 First male hill-dweller maintaining position (7)
- 20 Backseat driver swallowed lies (5)
- 22 Fancy talk from returning Christian actor (9)
- 24 Curt hoofer dancing with rep as expected (3,3,3,6)
- 25 Riotous hen do in cut off city (9)
- 26 Boring remark about short men (5)

DOWN

- 1 Make a follower money (5)
- 2 Stuck count given present (7)
- 3 Articulate English abess spies note (9)
- 4 Dog cross about garland (7)
- 5 Upset model receiving sound information (7)
- 6 Els described a player's words (5)
- 7 Cast in drag brought up energy drop (7)
- 8 Soldiers currently in a marquee healing (9)
- 12 Leaves child accepting a flower declines (4,2,3)
- 14 Loud Catholic lady expressing love (9)
- 16 Less colourful Missouri city (7)
- 17 Rod Stewart's first foreign rep etc. (7)
- 18 Male with a plan outside a city (7)
- 19 Loveless rat is one of several lost (7)
- 21 Stone circles closer to red rose (5)
- 23 A lament, perhaps, in a cathedral (5)

Cryptic clues from our knight, and quick clues from his squire, lead to the same answers in the Crusader's Sunday joust



The Squire's clues

ACROSS

- 1 Pair (5)
- 4 Put a match to (3,6)
- 9 Countless (1,8,3,3)
- 10 Management (9)
- 11 Dangerous feat (5)
- 12 Freshwater duck (7)
- 13 Conceal (7)
- 15 Give voice to (7)
- 18 Insistent (7)
- 20 Stories (5)
- 22 Ornate (9)
- 24 Normal (3,3,3,6)
- 25 Port of central Norway (9)
- 26 Boringly similar (5)

DOWN

- 1 Trade name (5)
- 2 Clung (7)
- 3 Pronounce distinctly (9)
- 4 Cocker ____ (7)
- 5 News (7)
- 6 Queues (5)
- 7 Bead of liquid (7)
- 8 Handling (9)
- 12 Deteriorates (4,2,3)
- 14 Strident (9)
- 16 Capital of Sicily (7)
- 17 Ceremonial staff (7)
- 18 City of southern California (7)
- 19 Word formed from another (7)
- 21 Tolerated (5)
- 23 Funeral song (5)

For your chance to WIN £100 read down the letters in the highlighted squares to reveal the mystery word.

TO ENTER CALL: 0904 161 1610

(£1.50 per call plus network extras) and leave your answer and details, or text SXCRUS followed by a space, your answer, name and address details to 88833 (£1.50 per text plus network extras) or send your grid containing the answer in the shaded squares to: Sunday Express Prize Crossword, September 11, PO Box 12578, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BT. Competition closes September 15 at 23:59pm. An extra day is given for postal entries during bank holidays.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

Winner will be selected at random from all correct entry routes after the closing date. Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1.50 plus your standard network rate. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390.

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION: Across: 1 Epsom, 4 Peer group, 9 All-encompassing, 10 Tangerine, 11 Slice, 12 Eyesore, 13 Savaged, 15 Capital, 18 Belated, 20 Notes, 22 World view, 24 Representations, 25 Consensus, 26 Daisy. Down: 1 Enact, 2 Silence, 3 Mangelout, 4 Promise, 5 Express, 6 Gasps, 7 Opening, 8 Pigheaded, 12 Eccentric, 14 Validated, 16 Put-upon, 17 Lawless, 18 Berates, 19 Tripoli, 21 Scene, 23 Wispy. Prize word: Peseta

*SP: Spoke - Helpline 0333 202 3390

SPORT RACING

CLASSIC WIN IS CALLING LONDON

NEW LONDON has the credentials to justify favouritism by landing today's Cazoo St Leger at Doncaster.

At Goodwood on his latest outing, **NEW LONDON** (3.55, nap) was an impressive winner when beating Deauville Legend with Hoo Ya Mal back in third place.

Deauville Legend highlighted that form by landing a Group Two at York on his following outing.

Connections of Hoo Ya Mal, who has also since won, believe their colt was unfortunate at Goodwood as his rider dropped his whip.

But they appear to be clutching straws as Hoo Ya Mal was under pressure before then.

After finishing a useful second behind Highfield Princess at York, **THE PLATINUM QUEEN** (1.35) will relish the return to

By **The Scout** (Chris Goulding)

juvenile company in Coral Flying Childers Stakes.

The recent rain will see **DAKOTA GOLD** (2.10) back in the winners' enclosure.

This tough performer has plenty of weight but is only 4lb higher than he carried when last successful at York.

Ground conditions will also be perfect for **TRUESHAN** (2.45, trb) in the Doncaster Cup.

He has been denied countless opportunities owing to the firm ground this season but with no Stradivarius lining up, it will be a penalty kick.

KINROSS (3.20) is another who will be suited by the ground.

He comes to the race in cracking form after his success at York, where he had Al Suhail (fifth), Sacred (sixth)

and Jumby (ninth) in his slipstream.

At the Curragh, **HAMISH** (4.10) can cause an upset by toppling the odds-on favourite Kyprios in the Irish St Leger.

Kyprios looked a fortunate winner at both Royal Ascot and

Goodwood, while Hamish beat Hukum last year and only failed by a neck to catch Trueshan in 2019.

Today's drop in distance will see **LA PETITE COCO** (1.50, nb4) make it back-to-back victories in the Blandford Stakes

HIGHFIELD PRINCESS (2.25), the recent winner of the Nunthorpe at York, cannot be opposed in the Flying Five Stakes, while having won all her four races in impressive fashion, **MEDITATE** (3.00) is expected to make it five

in the Moyglare Stud Stakes.

The betting suggests her trainer Aidan O'Brien is also expected to strike with the odds-on favourite Aesop's Fables but **MARBAAN** (3.35) has by far the better credentials.

BRITISH HORSE racing has been cancelled on the day of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral, Monday, 19 September. A British Horseracing Authority statement read: "British racing will not go ahead on Monday 19 September – the date of the funeral of Her Late Majesty The Queen. "This will give everyone involved in British racing the opportunity to mourn Her Late Majesty's passing and offer thanks for her contribution to our sport and the nation."

DAILY EXPRESS

OFFICIAL HORSE RACING COMMENTARY AND RESULTS

Call 0905 817 2637

Calls: 77p per min from BT landline. Other networks/mobiles may be higher. 18+ only. SP: Spoke. Helpline: 0333 202 3390

RED HOT BOOKIE BASHER

SUPERB WINNERS MONTH AFTER MONTH

FROM MY WELL CONNECTED CONTACTS

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Lines updated at 10am & 4pm daily. Calls will cost £1.50 per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke. Helpdesk 0333 202 3390.

Horse Racing & Sports Tips

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DONCASTER (SSR)

THE SCOUT: 12.30 Chaldean, 100 Fools Rush In, 1.35 The Platinum Queen, 2.10 Dakota Gold, 2.45 TRUESHAN (trb), 3.20 Kinross, 3.55 NEW LONDON (nap), 4.30 Atrium, 5.05 Inchicore. **JASON HEAVEY:** 3.55 HOO YA MAL (nap).

12.30 CORAL CHAMPAGNE STAKES (GRP 2) 2YO £79,458 (Class 1) 7f 6yds (3 declared)

1 (1) 511 ● CHALDEAN (25) (D,F) A Balding 9-2... L Dettori 114
2 (2) 512 INDESTRUCTIBLE (25) M O'Callaghan (IRE) 9-2 David Egan 113
3 (3) 411 SILVER KNOTT (22) (D,F) C Appleby 9-2... W Buick ★116
SP FORECAST: 10-11 Silver Knott, 15-8 Chaldean, 4 Indestructible.
2021: Bayside Boy 9-0, David Egan 5-1 (R Varian), drawn (2), 4 ran.

1.00 CAZOO HANDICAP £27,000 (2) 6f 11fyds (14)

1 (3) 1440-1L SHINE SO BRIGHT (120) (D) A Balding 6 9-10... Doubtful
2 (8) 0-10100 ASJAD (50) (C) James Horton 4 9-5... P J McDonald ★115
3 (5) 450219 ● FOOLS RUSH IN (22) (D) H Palmer 4 9-2... H Davies(3) 113
4 (2) 2845L0 LORD OF THE LODGE (22) (D) K R Burke 5 9-1... S Feilden(7) 109
5 (1) 034102 MUMS TITTLE (8) (D) R Hannan 5 9-1... S M Levey 113
6 (11) 102-178 BELLOSA (15) (D) J Chapple-Hyam 4 9-0... H Doyle 113
7 (10) 110L1 TANMAWY (16) (C,F) C Hills 4 9-0... J Crowley 111
8 (6) 210910 LION TOWER (24) (D) G Tuer 5 8-13... S James 111
9 (9) 0-37010 RAATEA (43) J Camacho 5 8-11... G Lee 113
10 (14) 216034 ABLE KANE (15) (C&D) (T) B Millman 5 8-10... W Buick 111
11 (12) 451111 JUAN LES PINS (38) (C,D) M Appleby 5 8-10... F Larson(5) 111
12 (7) 832144 HYPERFOCUS (41) T Easterby 8 8-9... D Allan 112
13 (3) 267170 ZARGUN (43) (D) S Dixon 7 8-7... C Hardie 111
14 (14) 143619 MITROSOFNIRE (17) (D) W Muir & C Grassick 4 8-6... H Turner 112
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Tanmawy, 5 Juan Les Pins, 6 Able Kane, 13-2 Mums Tittle, 10 Hyperfocus, 12 Raatea, Mitrososnfire, Fools Rush In, Asjad, Bellosa, 16 Others.

1.35 FLYING CHILDERS STAKES (GRP 2) 2YO £65,216 (1) 5f 3yds (8) ITV4

1 (6) 1223L4 CRISPY CAT (45) (D) M O'Callaghan (IRE) 9-3 David Egan 107
2 (3) 1845 HARRY TIME (29) M O'Callaghan (IRE) 9-3... L F Roche 100
3 (1) 11 PRINCE OF PILLO (29) (D) T Dalgleish 9-3... C Rodriguez 100
4 (4) 232936 FUNNY MONEY HONEY (10) J Harrington (IRE) 9-0 H Doyle 103
5 (8) 31 LADY HAMANA (25) (D) R Burke 9-0... S James 93
6 (2) 21233 MALRESCIA (8) (D) G Boughy 9-0... W Buick 106
7 (7) 1012 ● THE PLATINUM QUEEN (23) (D,F) R Fahey 9-0... Oisin Orr ★118
8 (5) 211 TRILLIUM (46) (D,F) R Hannan 9-0... P Dobbs 114
SP FORECAST: 11-8 The Platinum Queen, 2 Trillium, 8 Crispy Cat, 10 Malrescia, 12 Prince Of Pillo, 20 Lady Hamana, Funny Money Honey, 25 Harry Time.
2021: Caturra 9-1, Adam Kirby 7-1 (C Cox), drawn (7), 11 ran.

2.10 CORAL PORTLAND HANDICAP £51,540 (2) 5f 143yds (22) ITV4

1 (16) 411505 JUSTANOTHERBOTTLE (29) (C&D) K Ryan 8 9-12... C McWeeney(5) 109
2 (8) 110220 ● DAKOTA GOLD (25) (C&D) M Dods 8 9-11... C Beasley 108
3 (13) 223475 MAKANAH (25) (C,D,F) J Camacho 7 9-10... P Hanagan 109
4 (20) 5-07021 WHEN THE DEAL IS DONE (8) (D,F) R Teal 4 9-9D Tudhope 106
5 (22) 803211 BERGERAC (25) (D) K Ryan 4 9-6... T Eaves 106
6 (2) 845-170 SIGNIFICANTLY (25) (D) K R Burke 4 9-5... S James 101
7 (4) 81017 BURNING CASH (15) (C) P Midgley 4 9-5... Ryan Sexton(5) 107
8 (19) 25710 INTRINSIC BOND (16) (C&D) T Waggett 5 9-4... JP Sullivan 106
9 (1) 0153L1 NIGHT ON EARTH (33) I Williams 4 9-4... D Probert 106
10 (7) 1300-L0 PROJECT DANE (25) B Smart 3 9-3... P Mulrennan 94
11 (6) 54L045 NOMADIC EMPIRE (8) (D) D O'Meara 4 9-2... N Callan 106
12 (11) 294116 LEQUINTO (41) (D) A Carroll 5 9-1... H Doyle 106
13 (19) 143743 CHATHANFAR (9) (D) T Waggett 6 9-1... D Swift 107
14 (14) 867621 GIPSTEAD (22) (D) R Teal 4 9-1... F Larson(5) 108
15 (12) 24445-0 MOTAGALLY (15) S Dixon 6 9-1... P Dennis 108
16 (15) 852050 SUNDAY SOVEREIGN (25) (D) T Easterby 5 9-1 J Crowley ★111
17 (18) 010-8LL ATALANTA'S BOY (14) (C&D) Martin Smith 7 8-13 J Clark(7) 95
18 (17) 3LL761 LORD RIDDIFORD (47) J J Quinn 7 8-13... B Garrity 108
19 (10) 1042L3 DUSKY LORD (14) (D) R Varian 4 8-12... David Egan 109
20 (12) 267L70 ZARGUN (43) S Dixon 7 8-12... K O'Neill 106
21 (3) 136147 CALL ME GINGER (8) (C&D) (T) J Goldie 6 8-12 A Waugh(5) 109
22 (5) 365470 COUNT D'ORSAY (25) T Easterby 6 8-11... D Allan 110
SP FORECAST: 5 When the deal is done, 7 Makanah, 8 Gipstead, 10 Bergerac, 12 Burning Cash, Dakota Gold, Lequinto, 14 Others.
2021: Hurricane Ivor 4-9-10, T Marquand 11-2 Fav (W Haggas), drn (5), 16 ran.

2.45 DONCASTER CUP STAKES (GROUP 2) £73,723 (1) 2m 1f 197yds (8) ITV4

1 (6) 221142 COLTRANE (23) A Balding 5 9-7... D Probert 118
2 (4) 121115 GET SHIRTY (22) (F) D O'Meara 6 9-7... D Tudhope 119
3 (7) 700841 ISLAND BRAVE (8) H Main 8 9-7... P J McDonald 105
4 (8) 552153 RESHOUN (23) (C) I Williams 8 9-7... J Crowley 116
5 (3) 1L10-L1 STRATUM (85) (D) W P Mullins (IRE) 9 9-7... W Buick 109
6 (5) 111-111 ● TRUESHAN (47) A King 6 9-7... H Doyle ★129
7 (2) 244592 HAIZOOM (18) (T) Dalgleish 4 9-4... S James 92
8 (2) 18214-8 LISMORE (130) (D) De Bromhead (IRE) 5 9-4... L Dettori 100
SP FORECAST: 11-2 Trueshan, 5 Coltrane, 6 Get Shirty, 14 Stratum, 20 Lismore, 25 Reshoun, 33 Island Brave, 100 Haizoom.
2021: Stradivarius 7-9-8, F Dettori 4-11 Fav (J & T Gosden), drawn (5), 6 ran.

3.20 CAZOO PARK STAKES (GROUP 2) £68,052 (1) 7f 6yds (9) ITV4

1 (5) 63301L JUMBY (22) (D) E J-Houghton 4 9-9... Doubtful
2 (5) 49-3821 ● KINROSS (22) (D) (T) R Beckett 5 9-9... L Dettori 119
3 (1) 6131-05 AL SUHAIL (22) (D) C Appleby 5 9-6... W Buick 120
4 (6) 424013 GARRUS (35) (F) C Hills 6 9-6... J Crowley ★121
5 (9) 5321L2 MISTY GREY (14) (D) Dascombe 5 9-6... H Doyle 117
6 (8) 28-1051 DOUBLE OR BUBBLE (14) (D) C Wall 5 9-3... J Mitchell 118
7 (4) 171-556 SACRED (22) (D,F) W Haggas 4 9-3... Doubtful
8 (7) 8-33287 NEW ENERGY (63) (D) S Lavery (IRE) 9 9-2... Oisin Orr 117
9 (3) 5-75052 THE WIZARD OF EYE (44) J S Moore 3 9-2... David Egan 113
SP FORECAST: 11-8 Kinross, 7-2 Garrus, 5 Al Suhail, 13-2 Double Or Bubble, 8 New Energy, 16 Misty Grey, 25 The Wizard Of Eye.
2021: Glorious Journey 6-9-4, W Buick 5-2 (C Appleby), drawn (3), 6 ran.

3.55 ST LEGER STAKES (GROUP 1) 3YO £445,741 (1) 1m 6f 115yds (9) ITV4

1 (5) 1-1L ELДАР ELДАРОВ (59) R Varian 9-3... David Egan 114
2 (8) 5021 EL HABEEB (26) K P De Foy 9-3... P J McDonald 118
3 (9) 14-133 FRENCH CLAIM (78) P Twomey (IRE) 9-3... D Tudhope 116
4 (2) 1-14321 GIAVELLOTTA (37) M Botti 9-3... N Callan 113
5 (7) 2-32321 HOO YA MAL (15) (G) Boughy 9-3... D Probert ★126
6 (4) 1-1211 ● NEW LONDON (45) (F) C Appleby 9-3... W Buick 122
7 (6) 515243 EMILY DICKINSON (43) A P O'Brien (IRE) 9-0... S M Levey 116
8 (3) 11 HASKY (24) (T) R Beckett 9-0... L Dettori 115
9 (1) 37141 LIZZIE JEAN (44) I Furtado 9-0... H Doyle 106
SP FORECAST: 10-11 New London, 5 Eldar Eldarov, 11-2 Hasky, 6 Hoo Ya Mal, 12 French Claim, 16 Emily Dickinson, 25 GiavelloTTa, 100 Lizzie Jean, El Habeeb.
2021: Hurricane Lane 9-1, W Buick 8-11 Fav (C Appleby), drawn (4), 10 ran.

4.30 P J TOWEY CONSTRUCTION HCAP (STR) £25,770 (2) 1m (18)

1 (9) 1400-1L JOHAN (142) (C&D) M Channon 5 9-12... David Egan 108
2 (13) L5-8325 BRUNCH (93) (D) M Dods 5 9-12... C Beasley 111
3 (5) 1142L3 TYRRHENIAN SEA (24) (D,F) R Varian 4 9-11... D Tudhope 109
4 (11) 722-202 SYMBOLIZE (37) A Balding 5 9-10... D Probert 110
5 (1) 030-94L ASTRO KING (49) (D) Sir M Stoute 5 9-7... Doubtful
6 (7) 3107-LL DASHING ROGER (9) (D) W Stone 5 9-2... N Currie 110
7 (8) 041-212 EMPRESTATEOFMIND (26) (D) J Quinn 4 8-13... B Robinson 112
8 (2) 112L-00 POWER OF BEAUTY (87) H Palmer 3 8-13... H Davies(3) 100
9 (18) 2860-L0 FLOR DE LA LUNA (16) M Appleby 5 8-13... J Crowley 92
10 (6) 026174 FAME AND ACCLAIM (36) (D) J L Eyre 5 8-13... P Hanagan 110
11 (17) 410361 ● ATRIUM (23) (C) C Fellows 3 8-11... W Buick 110
12 (10) 313842 ARTHUR'S REALM (43) (C&D) E Dunlop 4 8-11... Oisin Orr 111
13 (12) 2L02L3 GIBBURN (16) R Hannan 3 8-10... P J McDonald 111
14 (4) 76L243 BULLACE (22) (D) (T) R Beckett 4 8-9... C Shepherd ★114
15 (15) 51-2178 LAASUDOOD (43) (C&D) R Hannan 3 8-7... Doubtful
16 (3) 05-6015 ATASER (65) (C) T Kent 4 8-6... H Turner 110
17 (16) 21-0311 POINT LYNAS (23) (D) E Bethell 3 8-6... R Dawson 107
18 (14) 524122 MASTER RICHARD (23) (D) Mrs A Duffield 3 8-2W Pyle(7) 108
SP FORECAST: 4 Tyrrenian Sea, 11-2 Atrium, 15-2 Point Lynas, 10 Symbolize, Emprestateofmind, Bullace, Brunch, Master Richard, 14 Others.
2021: Royal Fleet 3-9-1, William Buick 11-8 Fav (C Appleby), drawn (7), 8 ran.

5.05 CORAL MALLARD HANDICAP £32,400 (2) 1m 6f 115yds (13)

1 (3) 13-3L23 MAHRAJAN (23) W Haggas 4 10-2... Doubtful
2 (8) 917245 DARK JEDI (16) T Easterby 6 10-1... D Fentiman 99
3 (5) 653-314 ● INCHICORE (71) A King 5 10-0... H Doyle 96
4 (11) 1-34L2 GOING GONE (36) J Boyle 4 9-13... P Cosgrave 98
5 (2) 283104 NM CURIOSITY (27) C Fellows 5 9-11... C Shepherd 98
6 (7) 021104 HALIPHON (8) I Williams 5 9-11... B Sanders(3) 98
7 (2) 140001 THEMAMXECAN (36) C & M Johnston 6 9-11... C Beasley 97
8 (9) 546611 WISE EAGLE (15) A Nicol 5 9-11... D Tudhope 96
9 (6) LL3712 SIR CHAUVELIN (16) (T) J Goldie 10 9-10... P Mulrennan ★101
10 (13) 100222 HMS PRESIDENT (15) (F) E J-Houghton 5 9-8... W Buick 99
11 (10) 337142 FAIR STAR (31) B Ellison 6 9-6... Doubtful
12 (1) 147L64 MOLIMUO (36) Dylan Cunha 4 9-5... C Howarth(5) 98
13 (4) 2-13121 SONGO (45) (T) M Harris 6 8-12... P Dobbs 97
SP FORECAST: 7-2 Inchicore, 11-2 Hms President, 7 Wise Eagle, 15-2 Going Gone, 8 Sir Chauvelin, Themamxecan, 10 Songo, Dark Jedi, Haliphon, 14 Others.
2021: Rhythmic Intent 5-9-12, H Doyle 6-1 (S C Williams), drawn (5), 10 ran.

BEST OF CURRAGH (RTV)

THE SCOUT: 115 Mr Wagyu 1.50 LA PETITE COCO (nb) 2.25 Highfield Princess 3.00 Meditate 3.35 Marbaan 4.10 Hamish 4.45 Tostado 5.20 Max Mayhem

1.50 BLANDFORD STKS (FILLIES' AND MARES' GRP 2) £120,000 (1) 1m 2f (13) ITV4

1 (1) 2111-13 LA PETITE COCO (24) (C&D) P Twomey 4 9-11... W J Lee ★114
2 (11) 452374 ● EMPHATIC ANSWER (24) (C) J P O'Brien 4 9-8... D Keane 109
3 (12) 41L4-22 INSINUENDO (29) (C,D) W McCreery 5 9-8... C T Keane 108
4 (7) 7-41341 RUMBLES OF THUNDER (30) (D) P Twomey 4 9-8-5 Foley 110
5 (9) 34121 ABOVE THE CURVE (105) (D) J P O'Brien 3 9-5 R M Levey 103
6 (5) 7012 DIDN'THAVEMUCHODO (32) J P O'Brien 3 9-2 D McDonogh 100
7 (10) 122165 GALLERIA BORGHESE (16) (D) A P O'Brien 3 9-2 J A Heffernan 96
8 (3) 4L-1274 LITEROAL POETRY (32) (D) J P Murtagh 3 9-2... C D Hayes 104
9 (2) 11036 ONE FOR BOBBY (45) J P Murtagh 3 9-2... B M Coen 102
10 (6) 221 ONLY (31) A P O'Brien 3 9-2... W M Loran 82
11 (13) 724325 SEISAI (15) J P O'Brien 3 9-2... S M Crosse 103
12 (8) 423231 SUNSET SHIRAZ (32) (F) Cromwell 3 9-2... G F Carroll 101
13 (4) 1-74999 WEST COAST (16) A P O'Brien 3 9-2... E J McFarlane 99
SP FORECAST: 15-8 La Petite Coco, 7-2 Above The Curve, 5 Insinuendo, 13-2 Rumbles Of Thunder, 14 One For Bobby, Only, Didn'thavemuchodo, 25 Others.

2.25 DUBAI FLYING FIVE STAKES (GRP 1) £240,000 (1) 5f (19) ITV4

1 (2) 5-12130 A CASE OF YOU (85) (C,D) A McGuinness 4 9-6... R Whelan 124
2 (3) 0-72015 DRAGON SYMBOL (23) (D) R Varian (UK) 4 9-6... S Foley 116
3 (15) 6-34112 EROSANDPSYCHE (16) (D) P Twomey 4 9-6... W J Lee 116
4 (13) 654098 GUSTAVUS WESTON (36) (C) J G Murphy 6 9-6... G F Carroll 106
5 (9) 121128 RAASEL (23) (D) M Appleby (UK) 5 9-6... J Watson 119
6 (17) 21921-6 THE HIGHWAY RAT (16) (D) A Oliver 4 9-6... W M Loran 114
7 (16) 1124-5 CASTLE STAR (57) (C&D) J A Stack 3 9-5... J P Spencer 117
8 (1) 5-25383 CATURRA (44) (D) C Cox (UK) 3 9-5... A Kirby 117
9 (18) 38-5471 EBRO RIVER (42) (C,D) H Palmer (UK) 3 9-5... B Curtis 116
10 (14) 112L60 NEW YORK CITY (23) (D) A P O'Brien 3 9-5... R L Moore 110
11 (10) 1L3197 CHOQUINTO (16) (C&D) Miss H McLoughlin 5 9-3... J A Slattery 102
12 (7) 216111 ● HIGHFIELD PRINCESS (23) (D,F) J J Quinn (UK) 5 9-3... J Hart ★130

13 (11) 0-23242 MOONEISTA (57) (C&D) J Davison 4 9-3... C T Keane 121
14 (14) 1310-10 ROMANTIC PROSAL (64) (C&D) E Lynam 6 9-3... C Hayes 121
15 (5) 21-4116 BROSTAIGH (57) (D) J P O'Brien 3 9-2... J McMonagle 117
16 (19) 2-42310 FLUTUS (23) (D) C E Cristford (UK) 3 9-2... J A Heffernan 114
17 (12) 31-2317 GECENTRIC (57) (D) M G Lyons 3 9-2... Mark Enright 114
18 (6) 132-201 LADIES CHURCH (57) (C&D) J P Murtagh 3 9-2... B M Coen 120
19 (48) 4530L8 SALITEH (16) (D) J P Murtagh 3 9-2... G Halpin 102
SP FORECAST: 4-5 Aesop's Fables, 12 Marbaan, 6 Hans Andersen, 13-2 Proud And Regal, 10 Shartash, Al Riffa.

3.00 STUD STAKES (FILLIES' GRP 1) 2YO £240,000 (1) 7f (12) ITV4

1 (1) 31 AMAZING SHOW (51) (D) M G Lyons 9-2... C T Keane 85
2 (3) 93 ETERNAL SILENCE (15) J Harrington 9-2... S Foley 100
3 (1) 21L GAN TEORAINN (22) J S Bolger 9-2... K J Manning 94
4 (5) 6213L7 LA DOLCE VITA (15) (D) Donnacha O'Brien 9-2... M Ryan 106
5 (4) 613131 LAKOTA SIOUX (36) (D) C & M Johnston (UK) 9-2... R Kingscote 105
6 (12) 1111 ● MEDITATE (22) (C&D) A P O'Brien 9-2... R L Moore ★114
7 (6) 3113 NEVER ENDING STORY (22) (C&D) A P O'Brien 9-2... W M Loran 108
8 (9) 1612 PAPILIO (37) (C) J A Stack 9-2... J P Spencer 104
9 (2) 712 SHELTON (15) (C&D) P Twomey 9-2... W J Lee 100
10 (10) 15L1 SYDNEYARMES CHELSEA (40) (D) C Hills (UK) 9-2... Doubtful
11 (7) 1 TAHIYRA (47) (D) D K Weld 9-2... C D Hayes 101
12 (8) 13 THORNBROOK (22) (D) J P O'Brien 9-2... D McDonogh 111
SP FORECAST: 4-5 Aesop's Fables, 12-2 Tahiyra, 8 Never Ending Story, Thornbrook, 14 Papilio, Lakota Sioux, 16 Shelton, 25 Amazing Show, 33 Others.

3.35 NATIONAL STAKES (GROUP 1) 2YO £240,000 (1) 7f (6) ITV4

1 (3) 11 AESOP'S FABLES (22) (C&D) A P O'Brien 9-5... R L Moore ★115
2 (5) 21 AL RIFFA (36) (C&D) J P O'Brien 9-5... D McMonagle 96
3 (1) 212 HANS ANDERSEN (22) (C&D) A P O'Brien 9-5... J A Heffernan 109
4 (4) 3111 ● MARBAAN (47) (D) C Fellows (UK) 9-5... J P Spencer 116
5 (6) 13 PROUD AND REGAL (22) (C&D) D O'Brien 9-5... G M Ryan 109
6 (2) 3113 SHARTASH (36) (C) J P Murtagh 9-5... B M Coen 102
SP FORECAST: 4-5 Aesop's Fables, 11-2 Marbaan, 6 Hans Andersen, 13-2 Proud And Regal, 10 Shartash, Al Riffa.
2021: Native Trail 9-5, William Buick 7-2 (C Appleby), drawn (7), 7 ran.

4.10 COMER GRP INT IRISH ST. LEGER (GRP 1) £289,999 (1) 1m 6f (11) ITV4

1 (2) 217-551 CAMORRA (79) (C&D) G M Lyons 5 9-11... C T Keane 108
2 (8) 24/147-1 JASON THE MILITANT (75) H De Bromhead 8 9-11... R Whelan 107
3 (5) 17-3 KYPRIOS (47) (D) A P O'Brien 4 9-11... R L Moore ★120
4 (6) 14-1111 RAISE YOU (29) (C&D) J P O'Brien 6 9-11... S M Crosse 113
5 (1) 581-12 SEATTLE CREEK (29) L Comer 4 9-11... N M Crosse 94
6 (4) 224-1L1 SHANROE (22) (C&D) K Thornton 8 9-11... R Colgan 108
8 (9) 25-0167 PRINCESS ZOE (47) (C) A Mullins 7 9-8... J M Sheridan 112
9 (7) 111D12 ROSSCARBERY (21) (D) P Twomey 4 9-8... W J Lee 111
10 (10) 14-2472 SEARCH FOR A SONG (29) (C&D) D K Weld 6 9-8... C D Hayes 112
11 (3) 6353L3 MANU ET CORDE (31) J S Bolger 3 9-2... K J Manning 102
SP FORECAST: 8-15 Kyprios, 5 Raise You, 8 Hamish, 10 Rossicarbery, 16 Search For A Song, 20 Camorra, 25 Princess Zoe, 33 Jason The Militant, 66 Others.
2021: SonnyboyIstion 4-9-11, Ben Coen 4-1 (J P Murtagh), drawn (12), 13 ran.

CHEPSTOW (SSR)

THE SCOUT: 125 Nacho 2.00 Our Florentine 2.35 Oasis Gift 3.10 Wade's Magic 3.40 Grey Galleon 4.20 Moondial 4.55 Cailin Saoirse

1.25 VICKERS.BET APPRENTICE HANDICAP £3,726 (Class 6) 5f 16yds (5 declared)

1 (4) 546L-0 AUTUMN ANG

RUGBY LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS: Huddersfield 0 Salford 28

DEVIL SNEYD ONE HELL OF A HERO



GIVE 'EM YELL:
Ackers
completes
roust with
late try

MARC SNEYD left Huddersfield reeling as he masterminded a brilliant win for underdogs Salford.

The Red Devils came into the play-offs as the lowest ranked team, against the third-placed side, but they were a class above. The Giants were massively disappointing but any side would have struggled against Paul Rowley's free-flowing entertainers in this mood.

Coach Rowley said: "We are a good team with good players. We are resilient, adaptable and chilled. "It was definitely a win for character and commitment.

"We may be a bit of a crazy gang at times but we have some talented individuals who take it seriously and work hard and come together as a very good team."

Half-back Sneyd led the way with six goals and two try assists to set up a semi-final clash against

Julie STOTT
REPORTING

champions St Helens on Saturday. Guttled Giants boss Ian Watson said: "We played real dumb and Marc Sneyd was able to play in a dinner suit on the back of it. The better team won."

Rowley, on the shortlist for Coach of the Year, added: "Our journey can continue. We were not ready for it to finish but we are not treating this like winning the final – it is just another step.

"They were out on their feet at the end but we are a team and that's what it's all about."

The only downside for Salford is the expected loss for the semi-final of Man of Steel contender Brodie Croft with a head injury.

Rowley said: "We've got to try and step over another rung in the ladder to enable Brodie to come back for the final and display his talent on the biggest stage."

Full-back Ryan Brierley will also be sweating on his availability if a disciplinary hearing decides his sin bin for a shoulder charge is worthy of a possible ban.

But, whoever plays, Rowley has promised to go to Saints next week with the same daring game plan.

He said: "We are massive underdogs again. We can only beat them with hard work, effort and commitment and throwing a bit of caution to the wind – we will not be daunted by the challenge."

Salford raced into a 16-0 lead after 19 minutes with tries from Joe Burgess and Kallum Watkins, plus four Sneyd goals, as Brierley's sin-binning failed to derail them.

After the break Brierley scored from Sneyd's grubber kick, with Andy Ackers rounding off the win with a great solo effort late on.

SOLEMN: Giants
players observe
minute's silence



QUEEN ELIZABETH II
1926 - 2022

Smith hits out at Tomkins after stormy scenes

By Julie Stott

SAM TOMKINS and Catalans have come in for heavy criticism after disgraceful scenes marred Catalans' 20-10 play-off defeat by Leeds.

Rhinos players, match officials and broadcasters were pelted with missiles by Catalans fans at the end of the bad-tempered match in Perpignan.

The club – whose president Bernard Guasch has been banned and fined

twice by the RFL for criticising referees in the past 12 months – will now face an investigation.

Leeds coach Rohan Smith, whose side will face Wigan in the semi-finals, said: "It was disappointing to see the ref getting things thrown at him and our players treated like that."

England star Tomkins was also rapped for his part

in Friday's defeat, which ended the French club's season.

Smith accused him of diving to try to win a penalty and also had a heated exchange with him at half-time.

He said: "Every decision he questioned. I suggested we just play footy and see who the best team is."

On an incident which saw Tomkins fall over, after contact with Matt Prior,

Smith simply said "dived". He added: "I don't have a massive problem with gamesmanship.

"But when it turns into a scuffle and the game stops for three minutes while the ref tries to work out what happened, it's not good."

Catalans repeatedly disputed ref James Child's decisions, and had Gil Dudson sent off and Micky McLorum and Mitchell Pearce (twice) sin-binned.



TOMKINS

ATHLETICS GREAT NORTH RUN

Scott sets sights on an elite repeat

BRIT Marc Scott will be bidding to win the Great North Run today for a second successive year.

The men's elite race had been won since 2014 by Mo Farah, apart from when it was cancelled due to Covid-19, before Scott's triumph.

Olympic 10,000m champion Selemon Barega and Uganda's Jacob Kiplimo, the world record holder

By Darren Witcoop

and reigning world half marathon champion, are among the 60,000 competitors in the 41st running of the world's biggest half marathon.

Around £25million will be raised for charities. Organisers said it was "a fitting tribute to the Queen, who lived her life in service to the country and its people."

CYCLING VUELTA E ESPANA

Remco looking an Even bet for title

REMCO EVENEPOEL is poised to claim his first Vuelta e Espana title today.

The Belgian defended his overall lead in yesterday's penultimate stage, which was won by Olympic champion Richard Carapaz.

Evenepoel has an advantage in excess of two minutes over Spain's Enric Mas in second overall, who failed to close the gap

By Liam Shaw

despite finishing fifth. Ecuadorian Carapaz, in his final Grand Tour for Ineos Grenadiers, won the last mountain stage of the race after accelerating with 7km to go.

Thymen Arensman was second, with Juan Ayuso third.

The three-week race concludes today with a 96.7km journey from Las Rozas to Madrid.

BOXING

Arthur: One good win could be key

LYNDON ARTHUR is confident that one good domestic dust-up will thrust him straight back into the world title conversation.

Having beaten Anthony Yarde in 2020, Arthur then lost the rematch a year later.

And the victory for Londoner Yarde put him on the cusp of a shot at the WBC, IBF and WBO light-heavyweight champion Artur Beterbiev, who is recovering from injury.

Arthur (above), who is set to face Walter Sequeira of Argentina in Bolton on Saturday, knows that could have been him facing Beterbiev.

But after a change of promoters – he has joined the Wasserman stable – he feels

By Tom Hopkinson

he won't have to wait too long for his opportunity.

The Mancunian said: "It won't be long before I'm back in those fights."

"It will take one fight against a decent-ish name at domestic level to get back in the mix for world titles."

"It just takes a good win and everyone forgets about a loss and what happened."

"Before the first Yarde fight, everyone said I was going to get beaten, then going into the second one everyone thought I was going to win."

"Boxing is one of those sports you have to take with a pinch of salt. Get that in your head you'll be fine."



FORMULA ONE ITALIAN GP QUALIFYING



SHORT-LIVED: Verstappen, Leclerc and Sainz

Ferrari favourite Leclerc delights crowds at Monza

CHARLES LECLERC put his Ferrari on pole for today's Italian Grand Prix and thrilled the home crowd at Monza.

Leclerc pulled out all the stops with his final run at the Temple of Speed, with Max Verstappen having to settle for second-fastest.

But the champion dropped to seventh as one of nine drivers punished for exceeding the number of engine parts allowed.

Carlos Sainz, Sergio Perez and Lewis Hamilton qualified third, fourth and fifth respectively also faced grid sanctions. Hamilton will start from the back after taking on his fourth engine of the season – one more than he is allowed.

George Russell finished sixth but takes advantage of those above being penalised to join Leclerc on the front row. Fellow Brit Lando Norris qualified seventh but is set to start third in his McLaren.

The yellow 44 on the side of Hamilton's Mercedes has been turned black in honour of the Queen as tributes are paid up and down the paddock.

The minute's silence at practice on Friday will be followed by another ahead of today's race in the presence of Italian president

By John Norfolk

Sergio Mattarella. He and the majority of the 125,000 fans will be rooting for a Ferrari win, with Leclerc out to end Verstappen's run of four consecutive victories.

Verstappen could clinch back-to-back titles as early as the next round in Singapore, having won 10 of the 15 races.

But Leclerc, 109 points behind the Red Bull driver, will be out to restore pride for Ferrari.

He said: "I knew there was potential in the car, and I knew with my last lap I had to put everything together and I managed to do it."

"I am very happy with the lap and very happy with the performance. I really hope that we can do just like I did in 2019 by winning tomorrow."

Red Bull's Verstappen, subjected to a handful of boos by the partisan Italian crowd, said: "I enjoyed it and it will be an interesting battle tomorrow. I have to stay out of trouble at the beginning and then work my way forward."

Nyck de Vries was handed his race debut after London-born Alex Albon was ruled out with appendicitis.

The Dutchman, 27, performed admirably in his first qualifying session and will start eighth.

TODAY'S GRID

1 Charles Leclerc (Monaco) Ferrari, 2 George Russell (GB) Mercedes, 3 Lando Norris (GB) McLaren, 4 Daniel Ricciardo (Aus) McLaren, 5 Pierre Gasly (Fra) AlphaTauri, 6 Fernando Alonso (Spa) Alpine, 7 Max Verstappen (Hol) Red Bull, 8 Nyck de Vries (Hol) Williams, 9 Guanyu Zhou (Chn) Alfa Romeo, 10 Nicholas Latifi (Can) Williams, 11 Sebastian Vettel (Ger) Aston Martin, 12 Lance Stroll (Can) Aston Martin, 13 Sergio Perez (Mex) Red Bull, 14 Esteban Ocon (Fra) Alpine, 15 Valtteri Bottas (Fin) Alfa Romeo, 16 Kevin Magnussen (Den) Haas, 17 Mick Schumacher (Ger) Haas, 18 Carlos Sainz Jr (Spa) Ferrari, 19 Lewis Hamilton (GB) Mercedes, 20 Yuki Tsunoda (Jpn) AlphaTauri

GOLF - BMW PGA CHAMPIONSHIP: Rory making his move

GLORY'S IN SIGHT FOR MAC

RORY McILROY took full advantage of a stroke of luck to boost his bid for a second BMW PGA Championship title following a moving

tribute to the Queen at Wentworth.

A two-minute period of silence was impeccably observed, with DP World Tour chief executive Keith Pelley joining staff, players and caddies in front of the first tee.

Defending champion Billy Horschel also revealed that he and his wife visited Windsor Castle to pay their respects when the tournament was put on hold on Friday, with Min Woo Lee doing likewise at Buckingham Palace.

McIlroy paid tribute to the Queen's "dignity, dedication and grace personified", adding: "She was such a steady figure for the entire country. I was very fortunate, I got to meet her a few years ago and she could not have been nicer. I have the picture in my house alongside my MBE."

"I thought it was the right decision for us to continue. I don't think we are disrespecting anyone by playing and celebrating what a life the Queen had."

McIlroy began his second round eight shots off the lead, shared by Soren Kjeldsen and Viktor Hovland, but made up ground with an eagle on the fourth and a birdie on the eighth taking him out in 32.

Birdies on the 11th and 12th were followed by four straight pars before McIlroy pulled his drive on the 17th into the trees. He went on to make birdie and admitted: "It was like a seven, nett four. I told Harry (Diamond, his caddie) I won't be

Andy
WILLIAMS
REPORTING

complaining about my luck until at least next year. It was very lucky."

Another birdie on the 18th saw McIlroy match his lowest ever score at Wentworth, a 65 leaving him one off the pace alongside Thomas Detry and Rafa Cabrera Bello.

Hovland, who added a 68 to his opening 64, won his second DP World Tour title in Dubai in January and would love to claim another of the circuit's biggest events, especially with Ryder Cup qualifying starting this week.

"I played here in 2019, shortly after I turned pro, and I was kind of a little wowed about the experience," the world No.10 said. "I'd watched a lot of European Tour events but it was a little bit different showing up here the first time. I've got a chance to win tomorrow. That would be awesome."

Kjeldsen had set the early target thanks to a superb 64, the Dane dropping a shot on the first but responding with an eagle and seven birdies.

Speaking about observing the period of silence on the 11th, Kjeldsen said: "Being a foreigner but having lived here, I had some idea how much the Queen meant to the British public."

"But it was quite overwhelming and I was taken aback by how much she was loved."

"It really was a very special moment."



PROUD: McIlroy described meeting the Queen as players showed their respects at Wentworth (below left)



Ray of hope for Yamaha

BRITISH SUPERBIKES

BRAD RAY powered to the first Bennetts British Superbike race win of the weekend and led a Yamaha top three at Snetterton.

The Rich Energy OMG Yamaha rider pipped champion Taz Mackenzie by 2.437secs in the Sprint and Ray's team-mate Kyle Ryde finished third.

Ryde got the best start as polesitter Christian Iddon tucked his Buildbase Suzuki in behind but Ray soon overtook both and

controlled the race. Mackenzie charged through the field on his McAMS Yamaha and Ryde took third at the flag, his first podium since May.

Ray said: "We haven't had a lot of dry track time but the bike's feeling unbelievable in the dry."

"I had a bit of an issue with the gear shifter but still managed to eke out a gap so it's looking positive."



BAUTISTA

Magny-ficent Bautista

WORLD SUPERBIKES

SPAIN'S Alvaro Bautista beat Scott Redding to the first race win of the weekend at Magny Cours as his two world title challengers crashed out.

The Aruba Ducati rider beat Redding's BMW by 4.079secs in France as both Jonathan Rea and Toprak Razgatlioglu tipped off in separate incidents.

Rea and Razgatlioglu set identical lap times in qualifying but pole went to Rea based on their next-

best time. Rea crashed on lap two and Razgatlioglu a lap later, handing the lead to Redding but the Brit was powerless to stop Bautista.

He cruised to victory, extending his points lead over second-placed Rea to 56, and said: "The race was a bit crazy. It's not been a big battle but 25 points is a good way to finish."

Motocorsa Racing's Axel Bassani was third.

RUGBY UNION - GALLAGHER PREM: L Irish 45 Worcester 14

DIAMOND'S FEAR OF FALSE DAWNS

WORCESTER boss Steve Diamond watched his side take a seven-try hammering but revealed the club could have a new owner this week.

Henry Arundell, the teenage England wing, scored twice off the bench as Irish ran riot but Diamond insisted there could be light at the end of the tunnel for Warriors.

The Sixways outfit are in debt to the tune of £26million and face a winding up order next month. Owners Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham are trying to offload the club and Diamond said: "In the next 72 hours there may come news of a potential investor."

"The communication lines from the owners to me have been good but they are still in the mire of trying to find someone to buy this club and invest into it."

"It is a boost but we don't want a false dawn. I have been around rugby for a long time and there are not too many people who want to put their hand in their pocket and buy rugby businesses."

"If they have found somebody, great and no doubt they will speak to me. They might not want me to stay around, which is up to them."

Arundell toured Australia in the

TRIBUTE: Queen's passing is marked in west London



Adam HATHAWAY
REPORTING

summer but it was another winger Ollie Hassell-Collins, overlooked for the trip, who sparked Irish.

He scored once, had a hand in two other tries and put in a big defensive shift. And head coach Les Kiss reckons

Hassell-Collins could be in with a sniff for England.

Kiss said: "There has been another growth in Ollie in the off-season. There was some nice stuff from him for sure. I feel that with Ollie sometimes we're still scratching the surface. There's only upside to him all the way."

Main sponsor Adam Hewitt paid for the bus to bring the Worcester squad to Brentford and they were forced to wear last year's kit because the latest one is still with a supplier, who has not been paid.

And it showed as they faded after a furious opening 10 minutes when they had all the ball but kept getting knocked back by Irish.

Reality kicked in on 13 minutes, when Hassell-Collins released centre Curtis Rona after an arcing run and he put away flanker Ben Donnell.

Scrum-half Ben White added a second and Hassell-Collins went through three defenders to muscle over for the third.

Arundell emerged on 47 minutes and 40 seconds later had scored, kicking Hassell-Collins' chip through and diving over for the try.

Tries from another England tourist Will Joseph, hooker Agustin Creevey and Arundell's short-range second finished Worcester off.

EXILES EXCEL:
Agustin Creevey scores the sixth try for Irish



Borthwick bemoans Schickerling sealer for Chiefs

LEICESTER boss Steve Borthwick admitted his Tigers missed too many chances in a 24-20 defeat to EXETER at Sandy Park.

Prop Patrick Schickerling scored late on and Joe Simmonds' conversion sealed it.

Borthwick (right) said: "The boys are gutted to lose in the last play but we gave them one too many opportunities

Exeter came out with a specific plan."

Chiefs head coach Ali Hopper said: "We had to go the full distance and ramped it up in the second half."

Freddie Burns was sin-binned as Tigers conceded a penalty try to trail 17-6 at the break. Tries by Hanro Liebenberg and Charlie Clare turned it around

before the Chiefs stole the win.

Late scores from England stars Alex Dombrandt and Joe Marchant gave

HARLEQUINS a 40-31 win over NEWCASTLE, whose five tries included two for hooker George McGuigan. BRISTOL beat BATH 31-29 sealed by a late Will Capon try.



Today's Games

MANU TUILAGI embarks on his bid to feature in next year's World Cup when he lines up for Sale at home to Northampton today.

The centre started only six league games for the Sharks last season and missed England's summer tour with knee trouble. Northampton are missing Courtney Lawes, Lewis Ludlam and Dan Biggar.

The other 3pm game sees Gloucester host Wasps at Kingsholm.

TENNIS US OPEN

TEEN DREAM:
Alcaraz can become the youngest world No.1 ever



Winner will be on top of the world

TEEN sensation Carlos Alcaraz will face Casper Ruud tonight for the US Open men's singles title – and the chance to become the youngest world No.1.

The Spaniard, 19, is guaranteed to overtake his hero Rafa Nadal in the rankings.

And he can also announce a new era after the Big Three with his first Grand Slam singles victory. Ruud, inspired by his fellow Norwegian Erling Haaland, will also go top of the rankings with his first Major title.

It is first time two men have met in a Grand Slam final seeking a maiden victory and the world No.1 ranking.

But Alcaraz, the second teenager to make this final after Pete Sampras in 1990, has the chance to establish himself as the sport's new superstar.

His speed around the court is matched only by the quickness of his smile after the big points.

Even American fans were cheering him during his sensational five-set semi-final win over home favourite Frances Tiafoe.

Alcaraz said: "It's the final of a Grand Slam, fighting for the No.1 in the world,

From Neil McLeman in New York

something that I have dreamed about since I was a kid."

He reached the final by winning three consecutive five-set matches lasting 13 hours and 28 minutes.

Two of those wins – against Jannick Sinner in the quarter-finals and then Tiafoe – are among the four longest matches in US Open history, both finishing after 2am.

The tireless teenager said: "I feel great right now. I'm just so, so happy."

Ruud can go from world No.7 to No.1 tonight, having lost the French Open final to Nadal in June.

"Rafa obviously gave me a good beating," said the first Norwegian Grand Slam finalist. "I'm happy it's not Rafa on clay."

Alcaraz leads their head-to-head meetings 2-0 but Ruud reckons not even victory tonight will make him more famous than Manchester City striker Haaland.

"He's had an unbelievable season so far," said Ruud. "It's a joy to watch him score goal after goal. He's obviously the biggest star in Norway for the moment."

Final foes join forces

JOE SALISBURY and Neal Skupski will team up for Great Britain in the Davis Cup after their US Open final clash.

Salisbury and American Rajeev Ram retained their men's doubles title in New York by beating Skupski and Dutchman Wesley Koolhof.

Now the British doubles specialists may be paired for the coming week's Group

By Neil McLeman

D matches against USA, Kazakhstan and the Netherlands in Glasgow.

Andy Murray and Dan Evans could also play doubles, while British No.1 Cam Norrie is guaranteed to play in the singles.

Salisbury (left) said: "Neal and I can definitely be a good team. Everybody else will be in trouble!"



SPORT

SUCCESS ALL OVER THE GLOBE: **SPORTING BRITAIN HAS FLOURISHED****MAJESTIC TIME FOR**Queen Elizabeth's rule over the United Kingdom saw some brilliant sporting around the world. Here, **SIMON MULLOCK** delves into the archives and picks

1977 Wimbledon magic as Queen Elizabeth presents Virginia Wade with the trophy on Centre Court

1966 England skipper Bobby Moore is handed the World Cup trophy at Wembley by Her Majesty



1971 Princess Anne after success in the European Eventing with the Queen at Burghley



1985 Dennis Taylor after winning the world snooker title

1952: Harry Llewellyn, Wilf White and Duggie Stewart win Britain's only gold at the Olympic Games.
1953: The Queen presents Blackpool's Stanley Matthews with the FA Cup medal he craved after one of the greatest ever finals, with Blackpool beating Bolton 4-3.
1954: Roger Bannister becomes the first man to run a mile in under four minutes.
1955: England bowl out New Zealand for just 26 in their second innings at Eden Park in Auckland.
1956: Jim Laker takes 10 wickets in an innings as England defeat Australia.
1957: Dai Rees captains the Great Britain Ryder Cup team to victory in Yorkshire.
1958: Mike Hawthorn becomes Britain's first F1 world champion.
1959: Swimmer Ian Black, 17, becomes the youngest winner of the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year award – and the first Scot.
1960: Anita Lonsbrough wins gold in the 200m breaststroke at the Rome Olympics.
1961: Tottenham Hotspur become the first English team of the 20th century to win the League and FA Cup double.
1962: Ipswich Town, promoted the previous season, win the First Division title under manager Alf Ramsey.
1963: Henry Cooper knocks down Cassius Clay at Wembley before being stopped in the fifth round by the legend who later changed his name to Muhammad Ali.
1964: Ann Packer wins gold in the 800m at the Tokyo Olympics.
1965: Cyclist Tom Simpson becomes Britain's first professional world road race champion in Spain.
1966: Bobby Moore accepts the Jules Rimet Trophy from his Queen at Wembley as England beat West Germany 4-2 in the World Cup final.
1967: Celtic win the European Cup in Lisbon, beating Inter Milan 2-1.
1968: Ten years after many of his Manchester United Babes were killed in the Munich air crash Matt Busby leads his club to victory in the European Cup as they beat Benfica 4-1 at Wembley.
1969: Tony Jacklin becomes the first British winner of The Open in 18 years at Royal Lytham.
1970: Nijinski, ridden by Lester Piggott, becomes last horse to complete the Triple Crown by adding the St Leger to victories at the 2,000 Guineas and The Derby.
1971: Princess Anne is crowned European Eventing Champion at the age of 21 riding the Queen's horse Doublet at Burghley.

HOME AND AWAY OVER THE LAST 70 YEARS

OUR HEROES

triumphs by British athletes both at home and the moments which have shaped the nation...

1972: Welsh club Llanelli shock the rugby union world by beating the All Blacks 9-3 at Stradey Park.
1973: Red Rum wins the first of his three Grand National races for trainer Ginger McCain.
1974: Scotland go to the World Cup for the first time in 24 years.
1975: David Steele was given a shock Test debut against Australia and finished the summer with 365 runs from three Tests.
1976: James Hunt is crowned F1 world champion.
1977: Virginia Wade marks the Silver Jubilee in style by winning the Wimbledon women's singles title in front of the Queen on Centre Court.
1978: Liverpool become the first British club to retain the European Cup, beating Bruges 1-0 at Wembley.
1979: Nottingham Forest beat Malmö 1-0 in Munich to win the first of two European Cups.
1980: Daley Thompson wins the first of his two Olympic decathlon gold medals in Moscow.
1981: Ian Botham inspires England to an incredible Ashes win.
1982: Aston Villa make it a fifth English triumph in six seasons in the European Cup as they beat Bayern Munich 1-0 in Rotterdam.
1983: Keith Deller becomes BDO world darts champion.
1984: Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean thrill the nation to take Olympic gold in the ice dancing.
1985: Dennis Taylor wins the World Snooker Championship 18-17 against Steve Davis.
1986: Gary Lineker wins the Golden Boot at the World Cup in Mexico with six goals.
1987: England's cricketers win the Ashes in Australia.
1988: Eddie Edwards – AKA Eddie the Eagle – competes at the Winter Olympics in Calgary.
1989: Desert Orchid is ridden to Cheltenham Gold Cup glory by Simon Sherwood.
1990: Scotland win rugby union's Grand Slam.
1991: Liz McColgan takes World Athletics Champs gold in the 10,000m.
1992: Linford Christie wins 100m gold at the Barcelona Olympics.
1993: Manchester United win the Premier League in its first season.
1994: Wigan win rugby league's World Club Challenge.
1995: Frank Bruno becomes world heavyweight boxing champion.
1996: Paul Gascoigne scores a stunner as England beat Scotland 2-0 at Wembley in the Euros, but lose the penalty shoot-out 6-5 against Germany in the semi-final.

1997: The British Lions and Irish win a series against world champions South Africa.
1998: Michael Owen announces himself on the world stage at the age of 18 with one of the best goals ever scored at the World Cup.
1999: Manchester United claim an historic Treble of Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup.
2000: Steve Redgrave – now Sir Steve – wins his fifth Olympic rowing gold medal at the age of 38.
2001: Michael Owen scores a hat-trick in Munich as England thrash old rivals Germany 5-1.
2002: Paula Radcliffe wins the London marathon.
2003: Jonny Wilkinson kicks England to glory in the rugby union World Cup in Australia.
2004: Kelly Holmes – later to become Dame Kelly – wins double gold in the 800m and 1,500m at the Olympic Games in Athens.
2005: England lose the first Ashes Test against Australia at Lord's but come back to win the little urn for the first time since 1987.
2006: Just six weeks after the tragic death of his wife Heather, Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke plays a key role in helping Europe win the Ryder Cup at Ireland's K Club.
2007: Boxer Joe Calzaghe outpoints Mikkel Kessler in Cardiff.
2008: Swimmer Ellie Simmonds wins two golds at the Paralympics.
2009: Jenson Button wins the F1 world championship for Brawn.
2010: England become T20 world champions, beating Australia by seven wickets in the final.
2011: Frankel wins the 2,000 Guineas Stakes at Newmarket as a pacemaker.
2012: Bradley Wiggins – later Sir Bradley – becomes the first Brit to win the Tour de France.
2013: Andy Murray – later Sir Andy – wins Wimbledon.
2014: Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy wins The Open at Royal Liverpool.
2015: Britain win the Davis Cup for the first time since 1936.
2016: Leicester win the Premier League title at odds of 5,000-1.
2017: Mo Farah wins his 10th world title by prevailing in the 10,000m in London.
2018: Manchester City win the Premier League with 100 points.
2019: England win cricket's World Cup for the first time.
2020: Lewis Hamilton wins the F1 title for the seventh time.
2021: Cyclist Jason Kenny wins the Keirin at the Olympics in Tokyo.
2022: Football finally comes home as England win the women's Euros.



1953 Stanley Matthews gets his FA Cup winners' medal



1954 Roger Bannister completes the four-minute mile



2004 Kelly Holmes was in great form at the Olympics



1999 Manchester United's European glory in Barcelona



2012 Bradley Wiggins takes the Tour de France title



PRIDE OF LIONESSES: England celebrate Euro glory at Wembley

Lionesses provide a glorious footnote to an extraordinary era

THE reign of Queen Elizabeth II – and its extraordinary length – has no equal on these Islands.

It is hard to appreciate exactly what 70 years on the throne entails.

Yet, looking at some of the dramatic changes within football, our national sport, over the period is a decent way to start.

So, with British football on pause this weekend following the Queen's death, here we rewind and reflect on the history of our Beautiful Game from 1952 to 2022.

Perhaps the most significant difference of all to occur in those seven decades is the simple fact women can now legally play football...in a stadium.

That was not the case when Elizabeth was crowned. Indeed since 1921, in their supposed wisdom, the FA had banned women's football on league grounds.

Forget crowds of 20,000-plus at some matches, the archaic FA of the day explained: "The game of football is quite unsuitable for females and ought not to be encouraged."

Fortunately common sense eventually prevailed – though almost half a century later – with the ban binned in 1971.

Hence, there is some touching symmetry in the timing of our Lionesses' success this summer at the Euros.

Queen Elizabeth II was no football fan. Maybe those old FA bigwigs put her off by doing everything possible to isolate this country from the world game.

Their approach to the international scene was hardly in keeping with our Queen, proud head of the Commonwealth and globally-respected state figure.

The FA took neither the World Cup nor the European

By Harry Pratt

Cup seriously. Quite the reverse.

In fact, England did not even participate at a World Cup until 1950 – and due to a lack of preparation were knocked out in the early rounds every time until 1966. How mad is that?

It was the same in the European Cup, with no English club competing in the inaugural competition of 1955-56 – on the orders of the Football League.

A year later, ignoring that command, Matt Busby led champions Manchester United into battle against the cream of the continent.

From the Munich Air Disaster in 1958 to lifting the trophy 10 years later at Wembley, the Busby Babes became footballing legends.

By which time the game, home and abroad, was being transformed into something akin to today.

The maximum wage went in 1961, following the Jimmy Hill-led PFA strike threat. Before then, the most a player could earn in a season was £20-a-week. Inconceivable given today's astronomical wages.

Many older generations recall the first time they watched television was for the Queen's Coronation.

And many also say the 1970 World Cup finals was the first football they saw in glorious technicolour. A bit blurry, perhaps, but a vivid sign of the picture ahead.

But it was the 90s that saw the English elite game explode. The Premier League launched in 1992 and has boomed into a billionaires' paradise fuelled by broadcasting rights.

We take it for granted now – 30 years of thrills and spills action feels like forever.

Yet that's not even half the length of time our proud Queen served on the throne.

SPORT



TRIBUTE: Gianfranco Zola

ZOLA THE 'GREAT' WAS LEFT STUNNED

By Simon Mullock

CHELSEA legend Gianfranco Zola has revealed how he was left stunned when the Queen called him "the great Italian footballer".

Zola, 56, took to social media to pay tribute to Her Majesty when her death was announced on Friday.

The former Italian forward became a huge admirer of the Royal Family when he signed for Chelsea in 1996 – and was later awarded the OBE for his services to English football.

But he still remembers the day he met the Queen and Prince Philip at a gala dinner hosted by the British Embassy in Rome in 2004 and the thrill he got when she spoke glowingly of his talents.

Zola said: "When I was introduced to her, she told me, 'The great Italian footballer'."

"I was over the moon. I did not expect such recognition in her presence."

"I have an indelible memory of the meeting and her sublime bearing."

"She was a splendid lady, never banal, always informed on any subject."

"She whispered but caught you with her eyes. She had unique grace and an unrivalled elegance."

"I spent seven years with Chelsea and I immediately understood the extraordinary magnetism the Queen has with her subjects."

Zola, who still has a home in London, has a photograph of his meeting with the Queen on his fireplace. The scroll of honour for his OBE names him as: "The most enduring foreign player in the history of Chelsea, an excellent football ambassador and the ideal model for young fans."

Zola joined Chelsea from Parma for £4.5million and helped the Blues win two FA Cups, the League Cup, the European Cup Winners' Cup and the European Super Cup.

CRICKET - 3RD TEST, DAY THREE: ENGLAND v SOUTH AFRICA

RAISING A BAT

Memories of much-loved



TAKE A BOW: Ben Stokes applauds as Ollie Robinson celebrates taking five wickets at The Oval

ENGLISH cricket paid an emotional and moving tribute to the late Elizabeth II as international sport resumed in this country on a tear-filled, historic day in South London.

As Charles III was being proclaimed the new King, thus confirming the end of the second Elizabethan era, just a few miles from where Jimmy Anderson was preparing to run in to bowl in the Third Test, a full and sombre crowd at The Oval was able to display its grief at the loss of their Queen.

A mournful atmosphere enveloped this famous old ground as thousands came to see the third day of the contest with South Africa – but more pointedly pay their respects to someone who had reigned supreme for 70 years.

England and South Africa players donned black armbands and attempted to show that cricket life was carrying on as normal in the long history of a sport which had such strong connections with the Queen during her long reign.

Incredibly, she had lived long enough to witness three-quarters of all the Tests ever played.

But it was certainly no ordinary day. And those competing out in the middle knew they would be merely a sideshow in the great scheme of things. The priority was to honour Elizabeth II (below) – a regular visitor here over the decades – the best way they could.

It proved to be a real day of powerful emotion and sentiment with Surrey CCC encouraging people to take their seats early while also ditching the fancy dress and restricting them to two drinks each just for good measure.

Even the sun poked through the dark clouds to shine some appreciated brightness down on a venue which lay just a few miles from where our longest-serving monarch was brought into the world 96 years ago.

New ECB chairman Richard Thompson defended the decision to recommence the Test while football bosses postponed all their fixtures for the weekend.

He insisted: "It has been a frantic few hours. We instinctively felt it was inappropriate to play on the Friday so soon after her death and then again discussed whether we

Gary
FITZGERALD

REPORTING FROM THE OVAL

should play on the Saturday but DCMS and Sport England were very supportive and said, 'If you want to play then play'. It was unanimous, including the players, that this game should go ahead."

Captain Ben Stokes and his players wanted the opportunity to show their respect and took part in a Guard of Honour with South Africa, umpires and members of the military observing a minute's silence which was accompanied by a poignant single chime sounding from a bell struck by Irish Guards NCO Robert Brockelsby.

Tears welled up in some spectator eyes as soprano Laura Wright first sang the South African anthem, before bursting forth with an a capella performance of God Save The King. England cricketers becoming the first national side to do so in the new reign.

There was also moisture in some of the players' eyes as they belted out the anthem with a little more gusto than normal.

England bowler Ollie Robinson admitted: "We had to remind ourselves what we were going to sing when the anthem came on. There were a few nervy characters walking down the stairs."

"It felt a very special morning to be part of. We have never experienced anything like it. You could feel so much respect from everyone."

On the field, the crowd witnessed another crazy, frantic day of summer Test action with 17 wickets falling. After making up for lost time bowling out South Africa for 118, England capitulated to 154-7 when bad light forced an early close, a lead of 36 runs.

Robinson (5-49) and Stuart Broad (4-41) were the stand-out England bowlers.

In response, Ollie Pope struck an impressive 67 but when Joe Root fell for 23 England lost five wickets for 67 runs.

Broad said: "It's been a challenging time and we were all happy to resume the game. It's been an emotional day. Singing the anthem was amazing and the atmosphere was special. We just wanted to honour the Queen in the best way possible."



SPORT

EMOTIONS HIGH AS SPORT RESUMES AFTER QUEEN'S DEATH

TO ELIZABETH

monarch at heart of occasion

FANS AND PLAYERS PAY THEIR RESPECTS

From Back Page
is always special to stand out on the ground singing the national anthem but this was extra special because of what has happened.

"It's been an incredibly sad couple of days. The Queen's passing is so sad not just for the nation but for the world. She was someone who dedicated her life to the country and who we can take incredible inspiration from.

"It's great to be able to walk out on the field to honour the memory of the Queen.

"We know how much the Queen loved the sport and I was pleased the sport should carry on today. We've been sitting around for the last 24 hours wondering what was going to happen. I wasn't personally involved in discussions whether the game should resume today, that's a bit above my level.

"But sport brings people together and is something everybody enjoys. We have tried to make sure they do enjoy it this summer with the way we have played.

"It's such a short game but everything we do out there over the remaining days will be aimed at trying to still get a result. We don't do draws."

Both teams then took the field as just a few miles away at St James' Palace, Charles III was being proclaimed King.

FOOTBALL RETURNS

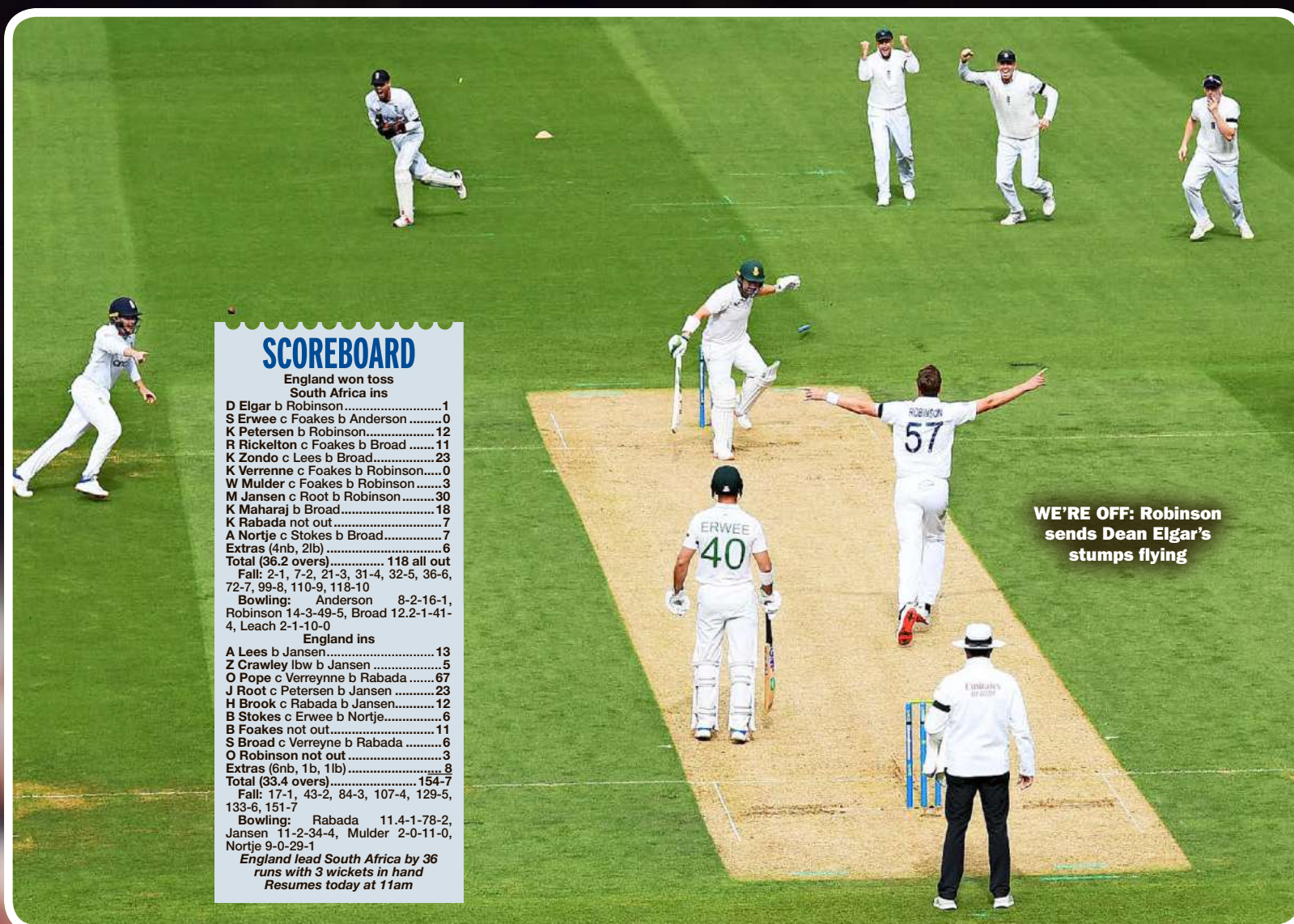
From Back Page
and West Ham marked the monarch's death last Thursday with a minute's silence that evening, while Arsenal's players paid their respects at half-time during their game at FC Zurich.

Thirty EFL games will also be played on Tuesday evening – with every club paying tribute to Queen Elizabeth II before kick-off.

The authorities expect all supporters to behave in a respectful and dignified manner to capture the mood of a nation.

Chelsea, Celtic, Man City, Arsenal, Hearts, Man United and West Ham are also in European action.

The Premier League returns on Friday with Aston Villa v Southampton and Nottingham Forest v Fulham.



SCOREBOARD

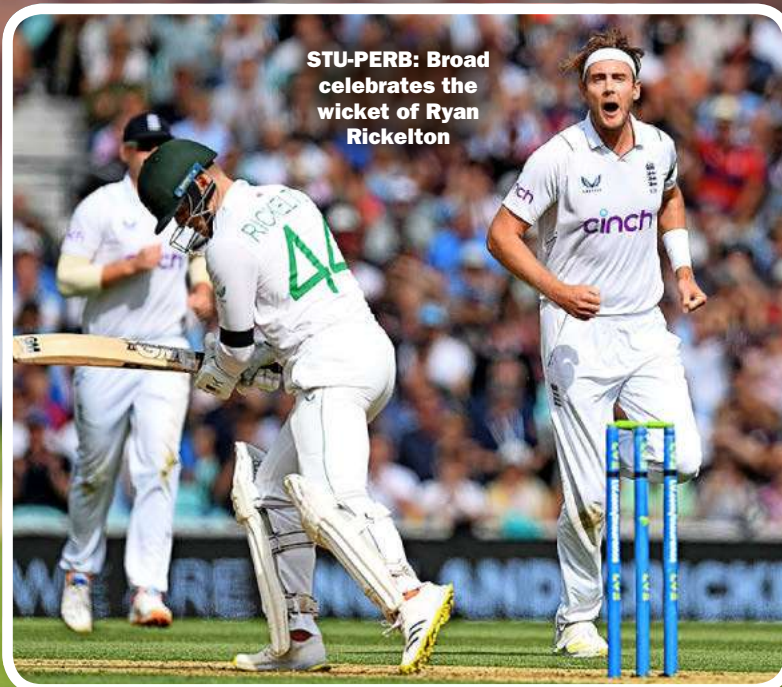
England won toss
South Africa ins

D Elgar b Robinson.....	1
S Erwee c Foakes b Anderson.....	0
K Petersen c Robinson.....	12
R Rickelton c Foakes b Broad.....	11
K Zondo c Lees b Broad.....	23
K Verrenne c Foakes b Robinson.....	0
W Mulder c Foakes b Robinson.....	3
M Jansen c Root b Robinson.....	30
K Maharaj b Broad.....	18
K Rabada not out.....	7
A Nortje c Stokes b Broad.....	7
Extras (4nb, 2lb).....	6
Total (36.2 overs).....	118 all out
Fall: 2-1, 7-2, 21-3, 31-4, 32-5, 36-6, 72-7, 99-8, 110-9, 118-10	
Bowling: Anderson 8-2-16-1, Robinson 14-3-49-5, Broad 12.2-1-41-4, Leach 2-1-10-0	
England ins	
A Lees b Jansen.....	13
Z Crawley lbw b Jansen.....	5
O Pope c Verreynne b Rabada.....	67
J Root c Petersen b Jansen.....	23
H Brook c Rabada b Jansen.....	12
B Stokes c Erwee b Nortje.....	11
B Foakes not out.....	11
S Broad c Verreynne b Rabada.....	6
O Robinson not out.....	3
Extras (6nb, 1b, 1lb).....	8
Total (33.4 overs).....	154-7
Fall: 17-1, 43-2, 84-3, 107-4, 129-5, 133-6, 151-7	
Bowling: Rabada 11.4-1-78-2, Jansen 11-2-34-4, Mulder 2-0-11-0, Nortje 9-0-29-1	
England lead South Africa by 36 runs with 3 wickets in hand	
Resumes today at 11am	

WE'RE OFF: Robinson sends Dean Elgar's stumps flying



CAPTAIN MARVEL: Stokes about to catch out Anrich Nortje



STU-PERB: Broad celebrates the wicket of Ryan Rickelton

BEN STOKES spoke emotionally as he and his England players were able to pay tribute to the late Queen before the Third Test began at The Oval yesterday.

The captain insisted he was "pleased" the contest

From **Gary Fitzgerald** at **The Oval**

with South Africa was allowed to resume following the decision to cancel day two due to the death of Elizabeth II.

In a sombre mood and atmosphere both teams took

part in a Guard of Honour along with military before first the South African national anthem was sung by Laura Wright.

Then God Save the King filled the air and Irish Guards NCO Robert Brockelsby Miller chimed the bell as Stokes and his

men belted out the anthem with more gusto than usual.

Tears filled the eyes of some of those in the crowd whilst a few of the England players were close to following suit.

And Stokes admitted: "It

TURN TO PAGE 63

SPORT PAYS ITS RESPECTS

Fans & players honour Queen Elizabeth II

SPECIAL:
A screen at The Oval shows a tribute



ARM IN ARM: England players before the day's play at The Oval

Football expected to return to normal this week

PREMIER LEAGUE clubs are ready to return after cancelling the weekend schedule as a mark of respect to the Queen. League chiefs are still to

By **Simon Mullock**

send official confirmation to clubs, but the expectation is that games will go ahead as scheduled

from Tuesday. Liverpool, Tottenham and Rangers will signal the game's resumption following Her Majesty's death by playing in the Champions League

that night. Liverpool face Ajax at Anfield, Rangers entertain Napoli at Ibrox and Spurs travel to Sporting Lisbon.

There has yet to be any

clarification from UEFA as to whether there will be a minute's silence held before kick-offs.

Both Manchester United
Turn to Page 63



Our glorious Queen



1926 to 2022
SUNDAY EXPRESS

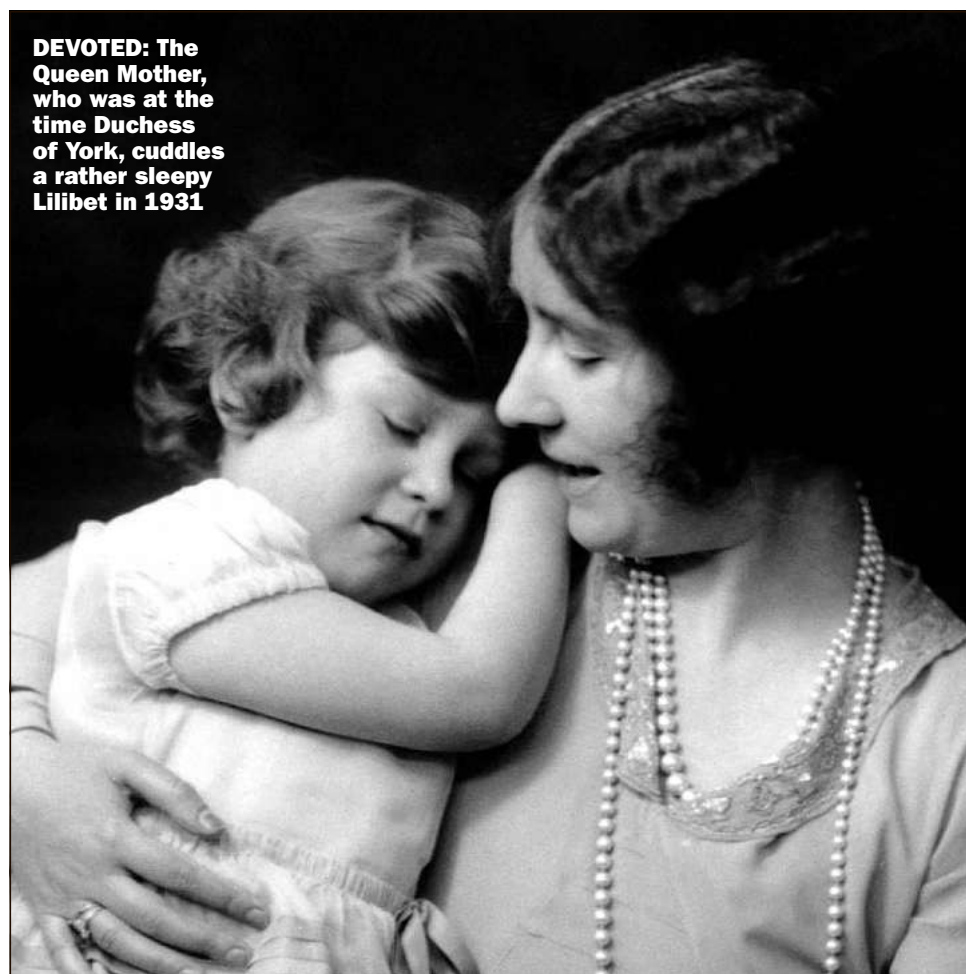
Picture: JULIAN CALDER/CAMERA PRESS

Our glorious Queen

‘Will you be Queen then?’ Margaret, six, asked. ‘Oh, poor you’



CONNECTION: The future Queen aged about four in 1930 with her father, later King George VI



DEVOTED: The Queen Mother, who was at the time Duchess of York, cuddles a rather sleepy Lilibet in 1931

SHE WAS never meant to be Queen. But the little girl born to little fanfare became the greatest monarch in our history, reigning over us for 70 glorious years. Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary entered the world – as third in line to the throne but with few real prospects of ever being crowned – during a rainstorm at 2.40am on April 21, 1926 at 17 Bruton Street in London's Mayfair.

It was the year of the General Strike, when 1.7 million workers walked out in support of 1.2 million coal miners locked-out of their pits in a dispute, after their weekly pay was halved to just £3. Amid the

By **Mike Parker**

industrial gloom, between two world wars, Elizabeth's birth created little more than a ripple of interest in newspaper society pages – although, after he first met her at the age of two, Sir Winston Churchill said he “detected an air of authority and reflectiveness astonishing in an infant”.

Though she and her sister Margaret, four years her junior, later became a focus of press and public fascination as “the two adorable little princesses”, they at first led a carefree and insulated life surrounded by governesses, nannies, maids, dogs and ponies. Their spirited Scottish nanny,

Marion “Crawfie” Crawford, managed to give them the occasional taste of ordinary life by taking them around London by Tube and bus, but mostly they stayed inside the royal bubble.

Elizabeth, affectionately known as Lilibet after the way she mispronounced her own name as an infant, appeared to be on course for a life of quiet royal service as a junior member of the family – until destiny decreed otherwise.

She was 10 years old when a Palace footman delivered the news that would shock Britain, the Commonwealth and her family to its roots.

Her uncle, King Edward VIII, was abdicat-

ing to marry twice-divorced American Wallis Simpson after only 10 months on the throne.

This meant her father, Edward's brother, was to become King George VI and Elizabeth would become heir to the throne.

Crawfie recalled Margaret, aged six, asking her sister: “Does that mean you will have to be the next Queen?”

Elizabeth replied: “Yes, some day.”

Margaret said: “Poor you.”

Crawfie had been capably teaching the two princesses history, geography, grammar and literature, with additional governesses instructing them in maths, music, dancing and French. Once Elizabeth became first

FEB 6, 1952

George VI dies at Sandringham House



MAY 2, 1952

BOAC launches first commercial jet service

MAY 29, 1953

Everest conquered

JUNE 2, 1953

The Coronation



JULY 4, 1954

Food rationing ends in Britain

APRIL 5, 1955

Churchill resigns as Prime Minister due to ill health

1926 to 2022

Pictures: Camera Press

BUCKET AND SPADE TIME: Young princesses Elizabeth and Margaret play in the sand outside their Hertfordshire home in 1932. Inset, Elizabeth aged two, around the time Churchill first met her



in line to the throne, her curriculum intensified.

Her most significant tutor became Sir Henry Marten, then vice provost of Eton College and a "racy, enthusiastic academic" who kept a pet raven in his study.

It was Marten who immersed Elizabeth in the minutiae of constitutional history, her mastery of which so impressed many of the prime ministers she later advised.

As biographer Robert Lacey wrote of this period: "It was as if she were studying to be Speaker of the House of Commons, not Queen."

Throughout her childhood and teens, Elizabeth had time blocked out each day for

"silent reading" of books by Dickens, Trollope, Scott, Tennyson, Kipling, Austen, Stevenson and the Brontës.

Decades later, the monarch told Harry Potter author JK Rowling that her extensive reading "stood [her] in good stead, because [she] read quite quickly now".

Her beloved Crawfie also later recalled that she took it upon herself "to fill" her young charge with knowledge "as fast as I could pour it in".

Decades later, on the eve of her 40th birthday, the Queen acknowledged all her early tutors and mentors, saying: "You can do a lot if you are properly trained, and I hope I have been."

APRIL 12, 1955

Polio vaccine declared safe

NOV 5, 1956

Suez Crisis begins

MARCH 6, 1957

Gold Coast is first British Colony in Africa to gain independence, renamed Ghana

DEC 5, 1958

Britain's first motorway, the M6 Preston By-pass, opens

MAY 9, 1960

The Pill is approved for use in the US



APRIL 12, 1961

Yuri Gagarin becomes first man in space

OCT 17, 1962

The Beatles' first single, Love Me Do, reaches number 17 in the charts

Our glorious Queen

The end of Princess's

By Mike Parker

AFTER an idyllic childhood, the life of Elizabeth – and the world – was about to change. She was only 13 when the Second World War broke out... and she quickly also learned other “timeless lessons” from her father “about perseverance, courage and duty”, according to royal author Sally Bedell Smith.

When the King opened a spacious house on his Balmoral estate in the Scottish Highlands to mothers and children evacuated from Glasgow ahead of a Nazi bombing blitz, Elizabeth and Margaret were directed to serve them all tea, and talk to them about their lives and families.

At the age of 16, Elizabeth was named an honorary Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, mixing frequently with officers at formal luncheons, where she arranged the seating and honed her burgeoning skills as a hostess.

In October, 1940 she made her first public speech, with a radio address to children throughout the Commonwealth, many of whom were living away from home due to the war, for which she was joined at the end by Margaret.

Though still a teenager herself, her words in that broadcast suggested a maturity way beyond her years, encouraging her young audience with messages such as: “When peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today, to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place.”

When Elizabeth turned 18 in 1944, she insisted on joining the ATS – Women’s Army, where she trained as a truck driver and mechanic. Time magazine reported that her father King George VI ensured she was given no special rank and was treated like any other young woman in the war effort.

On May 8, 1945 – VE Day – the then 19-year-old Elizabeth and 14-year-old Margaret sneaked away from the Buckingham Palace balcony to join thousands of revellers outside the gates, dancing the Hokey Cokey with complete strangers, almost all of whom failed to realise who they were.

THE VICTORIOUS and welcome end to hostilities also gave young Princess Elizabeth something to look forward to that would again forever shape her destiny... the imminent return to London of a dashing and heroic young naval commander who had already captured her heart.

She had met Prince Philip of Greece, a distant cousin who took up residence in London with the Mountbatten family, on a number of occasions, including a wedding and several trips he made to Windsor Castle during holidays.

But it was not until July 22, 1939, when King George took his daughters on an official visit to the Royal Naval College at



Dartmouth, where Philip was in training, that the future couple first spoke at length. Crawfie observed the sparks, later writing that “Lilibet never took her eyes off him,” although he “did not pay her any special attention”.

This was hardly a surprise since she was only a teenager and he a young man about to go to war but, according to Lady Anne Glenconner – whose parents were close

friends of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother – the princess “realised her destiny and luckily set her heart on Prince Philip at an early age. He was ideal – good-looking and a foreign prince”.

They exchanged letters throughout the war years until he finally roared back into her life in March 1946 and became a frequent visitor to Buckingham Palace, where he would race through a side entrance in his

black MG sports car to join Elizabeth in her sitting room for dinner, often with the ever-faithful Crawfie playing chaperone.

In late summer the same year, during a month-long stay at Balmoral, Philip proposed to Elizabeth and she accepted at once without even consulting her parents. Her father gave his consent – on condition they keep the engagement a secret until after her 21st birthday the following April.

NOV 22, 1963

President Kennedy assassinated



JAN 24, 1965

Winston Churchill dies

OCT 26, 1965

Beatles collect their MBEs at Buckingham Palace

NOV 8, 1965

The death penalty for murder is abolished in Britain

MAY 16, 1966

The Cultural Revolution begins in China



JULY 30, 1966

England wins the World Cup

1926 to 2022

age of innocence...

Pictures: Camera Press



WORK... AND PLAY:
Young Elizabeth joined the ATS – the wartime Women's Army – and learned motor mechanics and wheel-changing. But in 1945 she and Margaret also joined VE Day revellers like those inset, (though more discreetly) unrecognised in the crowds

OCT 21, 1966

116 children die in the Aberfan disaster in Wales

APRIL 4 1968

Martin Luther King assassinated

**MARCH 2, 1969**

Concorde makes maiden flight

JULY 20, 1969

Man lands on the Moon

APRIL 10, 1970

Beatles announce break-up although split is not finalised until Dec 29 1974

FEB 6, 1971

Robert Curtis is the first British soldier killed in Northern Ireland troubles

FEB 15, 1971

Decimal currency introduced

Our glorious Queen



MODEL OF MODERN ROYALTY: Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip after their wedding on November 20, 1947. The bride wore a stunning dress designed by Sir Norman Hartnell

JUNE 17, 1972

Burglars arrested attempting to bug Democrats national HQ at Watergate



AUGUST 4, 1972

Idi Amin expels Uganda's entire Asian population

JANUARY 1, 1973

Britain officially joins the Common Market

JANUARY 1, 1974

Three-Day Week begins to save power during miners' strike



AUGUST 9, 1974

President Nixon resigns over Watergate scandal

APRIL 30, 1975

End of the Vietnam War

1926 to 2022

Dashing sailor who captured her heart

Pictures: Camera Press/Getty Images

PHILIP and Elizabeth were married in a Westminster Abbey ceremony recorded and broadcast by BBC Radio to more than 200 million people around the world on November 20, 1947. The day before, the King bestowed the style of Royal Highness on Philip and on the morning of the union, the young Greek-born prince was formally made Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich of Greenwich in the County of London. (He was also made a British prince a decade later in 1957).

Elizabeth's feelings for her dashing naval officer fiancé were made clear in a letter she wrote in ink on headed notepaper from Balmoral Castle to author Betty Spencer Shew, who was compiling a souvenir book titled Royal Wedding.

The future Queen wrote of the man who captured her heart: "The first time I remember meeting Philip was at the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth in July 1939, just before the war. (We may have met before, at the Coronation or the Duchess of Kent's wedding, but I don't remember).

"I was 13 years of age and he was 18 and a cadet just due to leave. He joined the Navy at the outbreak of war, and I only saw him very occasionally when he was on leave – I suppose twice in three years.

"Then when his uncle and aunt, Lord and Lady Mountbatten, were away he spent various weekends away with us at Windsor. Then he went to the Pacific and Far East for two years as everyone there will know."

The extent of her infatuation with the 6ft tall, handsome Navy officer was also captured in the memoirs of Princess Elizabeth's beloved governess Marion Crawford – "Crawfie" as the young royal affectionately dubbed her.

She revealed the Princess was so smitten, she would heap praise on even his minor everyday accomplishments, remarking "how good he is" after a game of croquet or "how high he can jump" after he leapt over the net on a tennis court.

Philip would eventually not only be her rock through 74 years of marriage but the hard-working architect of "The Firm", his sleek, business-driven version of the royal household that brought it into line with his wife's modern approach to monarchy.

Their first son, Charles – now King Charles III – was born almost exactly a year after their marriage, on November 14, 1948. Their daughter, Princess Anne, joined the family on August 15, 1950. Two other sons were born after she became Queen; Prince Andrew on February 19, 1960 and Prince Edward on March 10, 1964.

PRIME MOVERS:
Elizabeth dances with her fiancé, Philip, in public for the first time at a ball in Edinburgh in July, 1947; inset, the couple study their wedding photos while on honeymoon in Romsey, Hampshire



AUGUST 16, 1977

Elvis Presley dies

JULY 25, 1978

First test tube baby is born in Oldham, Lancashire

MAY 4, 1979

Margaret Thatcher becomes Prime Minister



AUGUST 27, 1979

Lord Mountbatten assassinated by an IRA bomb

MAY 5, 1980

SAS storm Iranian embassy in London

MAY 8, 1980

Smallpox declared eradicated

DEC 8, 1980

John Lennon shot dead by "fan" in the Dakota building, New York City

Our glorious Queen

'A question of accepting here you are and that's your fate'

IT SHOULD have been a time of happiness for the new family to grow together. But just over five years after her wedding, Elizabeth's father King George VI was found dead in bed at Sandringham House, Norfolk from a coronary thrombosis at the age of 56; more than likely the result of a lifetime of heavy smoking.

A grieving Princess Elizabeth, who was on Commonwealth duty with Philip in Kenya, flew home from Africa as Queen Elizabeth II at the age of just 25. Her coronation on June 2, 1953 – during which Philip knelt before her – was the first ever to be televised and broadcast worldwide.

It was Philip who had taken the call from the Palace – in a romantic “royal suite” at Treetops Hotel in Kenya's Aberdare National Park that was actually a tree house in a giant fig tree – about the King's passing. He walked into the hotel gardens to break the news that her father had died.

Aides in the royal tour party later described how Philip and Elizabeth emerged from her room within minutes of him informing her of her father's demise.

None saw her shed tears but some said she looked “pale and worried” as they walked slowly through the hotel's lush tropical gardens to the banks of the Sagana River. There,

By **Mike Parker**

hand-in-hand, they then walked along the riverbank for what seemed an eternity to their anxious staff but in fact was little over half an hour. We can never know what words passed between them during that deeply emotional and private slow walk.

But on their return, Elizabeth's cousin Pamela Mountbatten, who was serving as her lady-in-waiting, was first to express her condolences. Her new Queen, she recalled, responded with the words: “Oh,

thank you. But I am so sorry that it means we have got to go back to England and it's upsetting everybody's plans.”

Elizabeth's genuine concern for others would become a cornerstone of her long and illustrious monarchy, as would her devotion to duty and the country over which she had now suddenly become sovereign.

More than four decades after that fateful day, The Queen herself recalled: “It was all very sudden.” Her task, she explained,

was “kind of taking it on and making the best job you can. It's a question of maturing into something that one's got used to doing, and accepting the fact that here you are and it's your fate, because I think continuity is important.”

Lord Charteris, her private secretary, recalled his astonishment at seeing her “preternatural composure” as she sat at her desk in the Lodge later that afternoon.

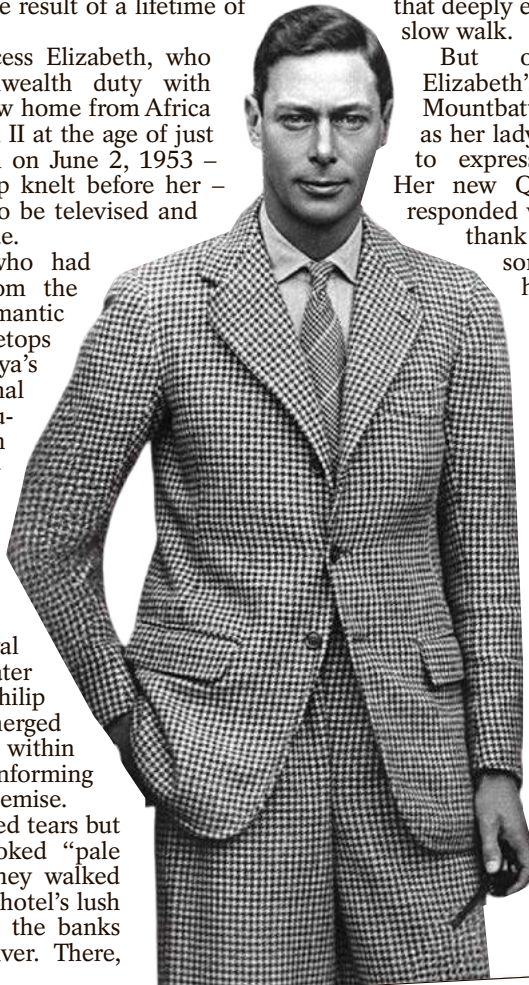
She was already busily writing letters, telegrams and memoranda, having thrown herself immediately into the affairs of state that would dominate her life from that fateful moment on.

THIS WAS vivid proof, Charteris later recalled, that she had “seized her destiny with both hands”. In the days and weeks that followed, letters between members of the Royal Family, parts of which have subsequently been made public, reveal the true depths of the Queen's despair over her father's death – and her determination to, as Lord Charteris had put it, seize her destiny.

Those between her and the Queen Mother were especially poignant as she told of her “unbearable sorrow” over losing her father.

As recently as last year, a newly-released private archive of letters to a trusted aide also revealed her despair.

In one of those letters – to Michael Farebrother, a former schoolteacher and Grenadier Guard who patrolled Windsor Castle during the war and later became Prince Charles's private tutor – the Queen spoke movingly of her “emptiness and loneliness” following her father's death.



'UNBEARABLE SORROW': The Queen on her father's death



APRIL 11, 1981

Brixton riots take place in London

JUNE 5, 1981

Study identifies the AIDS virus



JULY 29, 1981

Prince Charles and Diana's wedding at St Paul's Cathedral in London

APRIL 2, 1982

Argentina invades the Falkland Islands

JUNE 14, 1982

Argentine forces in the Falklands surrender

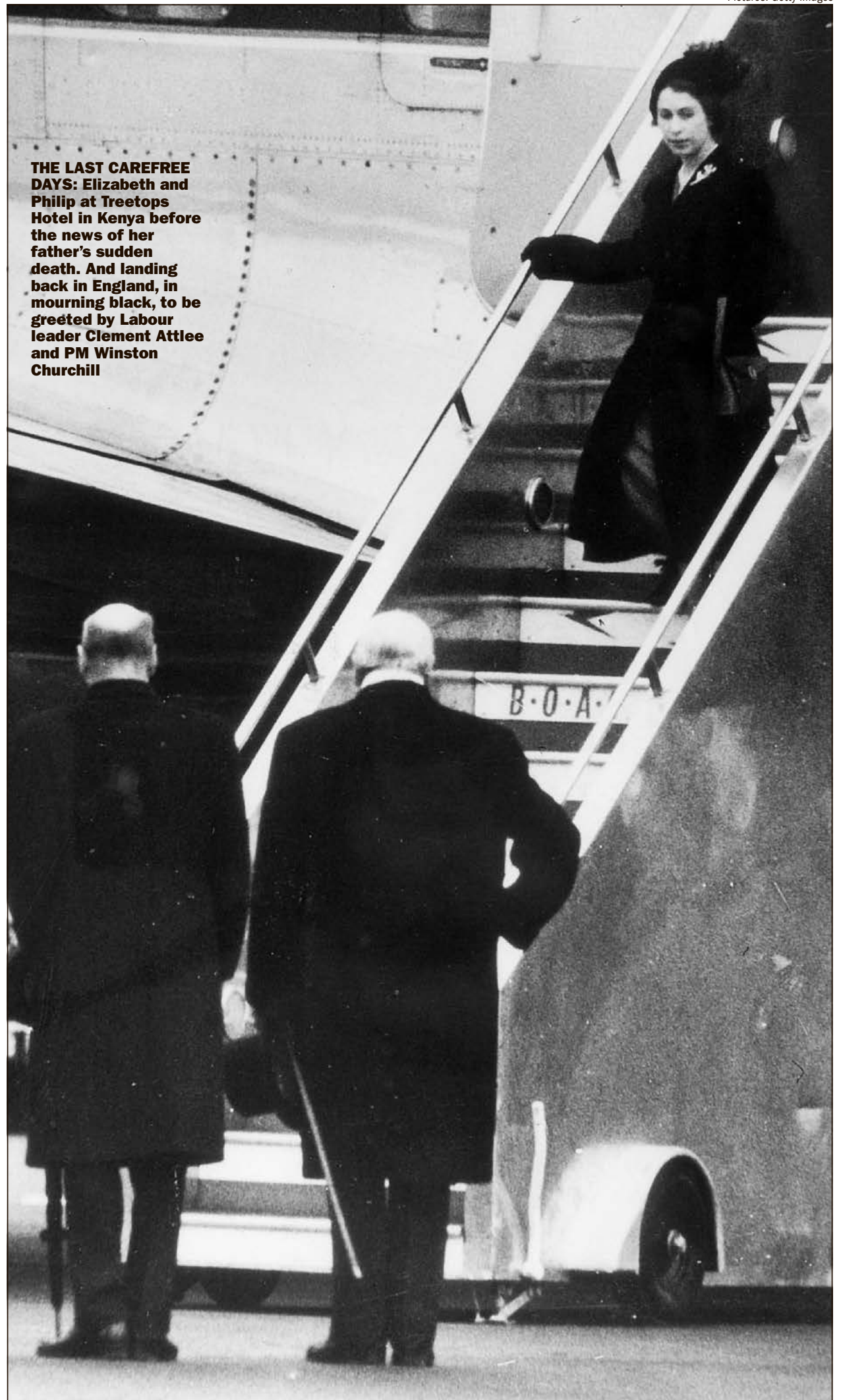


MAY 28, 1982

Pope John Paul II visits England

1926 to 2022

Pictures: Getty Images



THE LAST CAREFREE DAYS: Elizabeth and Philip at Treetops Hotel in Kenya before the news of her father's sudden death. And landing back in England, in mourning black, to be greeted by Labour leader Clement Attlee and PM Winston Churchill

JANUARY 1, 1983

Regarded as the official birthdate of the Internet

MARCH 12, 1984

Miners' Strike begins

JULY 13, 1985

Live Aid Concert at Wembley stadium



JAN 28, 1986

Challenger space shuttle blows up

APRIL 26, 1986

Chernobyl Disaster in Ukraine

DEC 8, 1986

British Gas privatised

MARCH 6, 1987

Zeebrugge ferry disaster

Our glorious Queen

‘I pray God will help

LIKE her eldest son Charles, Elizabeth became Queen on the moment of her father's death, under the terms of the Act of Settlement of 1701. She would not be crowned until her Coronation the following year but was fully empowered to carry out her duties as sovereign.

On February 8, the morning after flying home, she had to appear before the Accession Council – a ceremonial body that includes the Privy Council and representatives of the Commonwealth and City of London – to make her proclamation and religious oath.

During the 20-minute ceremony at St James's Palace, in her first speech as Queen, she declared: "By the sudden death of my dear father, I am called to assume the duties and responsibilities of sovereignty.

"My heart is too full to say more to you today than I shall always work, as my father did throughout his reign, to advance the happiness and prosperity of my peoples, spread as they are all the world over. I pray that God will help me to discharge worthily this heavy task that has been lain upon me so early in my life."

Such was her eloquence, poise and openness at a time of deep personal loss, that Lord Chandos was prompted to say: "There must have been nearly 200 Privy Councillors present in the large room next to the Picture Gallery.

"The door opened, and the Queen in black came in. Suddenly, the members of the Privy Council looked immeasurably old and gnarled and grey. The Queen made one of the most touching speeches to which I have ever listened, and I, like many others, could hardly control my emotions."

Harold Macmillan wrote in his diary:

By **Mike Parker**

"The Queen's entrance; the low bows of her councillors; the firm, yet charming voice in which she pronounced her allocution and went through the various ceremonious forms of the ritual produced a profound impression on us all."

At the end of her speech, the members of the Accession Council rose as one and bowed simultaneously to the fortieth monarch since William the Conqueror seized the English throne at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.

BY SEVERAL accounts, Elizabeth was in tears as Prince Philip escorted her out of St James's Palace. They drove to Sandringham to join the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret in paying private respects at the late King's coffin before it was transported by rail to London for the official lying in state at Westminster Hall, followed by the funeral and burial at St George's Chapel in Windsor on February 15.

The most haunting – and enduring – image from the funeral was of the three queens – Mary, the grandmother, The Queen Mother and Elizabeth II – alongside Princess Margaret, all shrouded in opaque black veils to their waists.

In a heartfelt message to the country afterwards, the Queen Mother asked that "protection and love" be given to her daughter "in the great and lonely station to which she has been called". Privately, in a letter to Queen Mary, she wrote: "I cannot bear to think of Lilibet, so young to bear such a burden."

CROWNING MOMENT:
The new monarch strides forth in the full glory of the Coronation – the first ever to be televised. Inset, smiles from the royal couple, now relaxing on the palace balcony, though young Charles and Anne still look a little anxious



DEC 21, 1988

Lockerbie disaster



JUNE 4, 1989

Tiananmen Square massacre

NOV 9, 1989

Fall of the Berlin Wall

AUGUST 2, 1990

Iraq invades Kuwait

FEB 25, 1991

Kuwait liberated. Gulf War One ends

DEC 3, 1992

The first text message sent

1926 to 2022

me in this heavy task'

Pictures: GEORGE GREENWELL/Mirrorpix, ITV, Rex, Shutterstock



MARCH 12, 1994

Church of England
ordains first
women priests

APRIL 27, 1994

Apartheid ends
in South Africa

MARCH 13, 1996

Dunblane school
massacre

JULY 1, 1997

Hong Kong handed
back to Chinese
control



AUGUST 31, 1997

Death of Diana,
Princess of Wales

APRIL 10, 1998

The Good Friday
Agreement

SEP 11, 2001

9/11 attacks

Our glorious Queen

Picture: CAMERA PRESS



JUBILEE YEAR JAUNT: Going walkabout in white gloves in 1977 in Western Australia

By Mike Parker

FROM the young Princess with no apparent destiny as a monarch, Elizabeth was now faced with the daunting duty that defined her life. After her televised 1953 coronation, the Queen and her Prince Consort embarked on a gruelling, seven-month round-the-world tour, visiting 13 countries and covering more than 40,000 miles by land, sea and air.

She became the first reigning monarch of Australia and New Zealand to actually visit those nations.

The Commonwealth – perhaps the greatest single passion of her reign – was in its infancy when Elizabeth ascended the throne. Just three years old, it had only eight members. By the time of her Golden Jubilee, it had 50 member states, spanning every continent, every major faith and up to a third of the world's population.

While a majority of colonies eventually opted for independence, most also opted to keep her as head of state and their symbolic, unifying figurehead. One of Nelson Mandela's first acts on becoming president of South Africa was to readmit the country to "the club" after years in the wilderness.

This thrilled Her Majesty, and the two heads of state shared an enduring and profound respect for one another. Highly unusually, he was even allowed to drop protocol and refer to her simply as "Elizabeth".

And as she helped the British Empire continue its transformation into the Commonwealth of Nations, Philip was at her side in private and usually two steps behind in public – as protocol dictates – until his sad death last year at the age of 99.

Over the course of her 70 years and 214 days on the throne, Queen Elizabeth had met and advised 15 prime ministers – from Winston Churchill to Liz Truss – as well as meeting 13 out of 14 US presidents from Harry S. Truman to Joe Biden.

SHE ALSO became the first British monarch to make a state visit to the Vatican and, over the course of her reign, is reckoned to have visited at least 117 countries and traversed well over a million miles.

She has witnessed, from a unique perspective, history's unfolding triumphs and tragedies as well as seismic social, cultural and scientific advances from the Swinging 60s and the Space Age to a technological revolution and a "connected world" that would have been unimaginable to anyone who inhabited the world she entered on that bitterly cold night in 1926.

Last year, with the pandemic still raging as she mourned the loss of her "rock" Philip, Her Majesty still managed to carry out 192 engagements during the year, 118 of them virtually.

She also had to contend with numerous family upheavals with the same stoic "never explain, never complain" philosophy passed on by her own mother, including two sons' and a daughter's divorces and the tragic death of Charles's ex-wife Princess Diana. She also watched her beloved grandson Harry quit Britain – and his royal duties – with his new wife and then fall out with his brother William over an angry and accusatory USTV interview.

At the same time, it can hardly have been



The

easy for her to strip her second oldest – and reportedly favourite – son Andrew of his official responsibilities over his legal problems and ill-advised friendship with a convicted sex predator.

Her approach to family was as faith-based as her devotion to duty, most observers concur – perhaps best epitomised by the words of a speech she made in 2011 after a visit to Dublin that saw her become the first reigning British monarch to set foot in the Republic of Ireland in more than 100 years.

"Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith," she said. "It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love."

OCTOBER 7, 2001

Military operations begin in Afghanistan

MARCH 20, 2003

America invades Iraq. Gulf War Two begins

DEC 26, 2004

Tsunami disaster

FEB 4, 2004

Facebook launched

JULY 7, 2005

London terror bombings



JUNE 29, 2007

iPhone launched

JANUARY 3, 2009

Launch of Bitcoin

1926 to 2022

TEXTILE TRAIL: Checking out local handiwork on a trip to newly independent Ghana in 1961



Commonwealth's heart



ARRIVE IN STYLE: By Rolls in Nigeria, 1956, and in an Indian Palki, 1983



CLOSE ENCOUNTER: New Zealanders enjoy new royal informality in 1977

DEC 17, 2010

Arab Spring begins

JULY 27, 2012

London Olympics open

JUNE 23, 2016

Brexit vote

JAN 31, 2020

Britain withdraws from European Union

MARCH 11, 2020

Covid 19 declared a global pandemic

MARCH 23 2020

First lockdown begins in UK

AUGUST 30, 2021

US completes withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan



Our glorious Queen

These are a few of her favourite things...



TEA

This always consisted of one solid silver pot of Earl Grey, one silver pot of hot water and a small jug of cold milk but no sugar served on a "morning tray" and poured into a bone china cup and saucer, with a napkin bearing her royal cypher E:R.

After pouring a cup for Her Majesty, a maid would then turn on BBC Radio 4 so she could begin her day by listening to the Today programme.

KEYS

The Queen once said that her "most important possessions" were her dispatch box keys, which unlocked the daily confidential information between herself, her government ministers and other members of her family.

For years, she carried the keys on a simple sterling silver St Christopher chain that her father had given her.



HORSES

The then Princess Elizabeth's first pony was given to her by her grandfather, King George V – a Shetland called Peggy, marking the beginning of a lifelong love of horses.

An accomplished rider by the time she was 12, the Queen's passion for horse racing earned her around £7million in prize money after she turned the royal stables into an elite breeding home for thoroughbreds.

She is reported to have owned at least 100 horses at the time of her passing.

FUN

The Queen's sense of humour was incredibly dry and she loved to laugh, encouraging staff to tell her their latest (polite) jokes.

She could be the life and soul of the party and was good at mimicking accents, especially Scottish and Cockney dialects.

The Queen and Prince Philip adored playing pranks on each other.

Speaking about one that landed his grandfather in hot water, Prince William revealed: "Instead of a mustard pot we'd have a mustard tube, a squeezey mustard tube. And then he'd squish your hands together to fire the mustard onto the ceiling. He used to get in a lot of trouble from my grandmother for covering most of the places we had lunch and things with mustard on the ceiling."

1926 to 2022



Pictures: MAX MUMBY; TIM GRAHAM PICTURE LIBRARY/AFP/GETTY; DAVID CHESKIN/PA.; SIMON DAWSON/REUTERS; REX/SHUTTERSTOCK

HANDBAGS

She was never without one. They were bespoke and completely unique to her. No one else has them or is allowed to copy them. Inside, she always carried a small compact, lipstick, neutral nail polish and a white linen handkerchief bearing the initial "E."



CORGIS

The Queen's corgis were said to follow her around like a "moving carpet" and even made it into her portraits. Her father, then Duke of York, purchased Dookie in 1933 and she was given her own dog, Susan, as an 18th birthday present. Susan even went on honeymoon with her. The Queen had more than 30 corgis and dorgis, a dachshund/Welsh corgi cross.



A TIPPLE

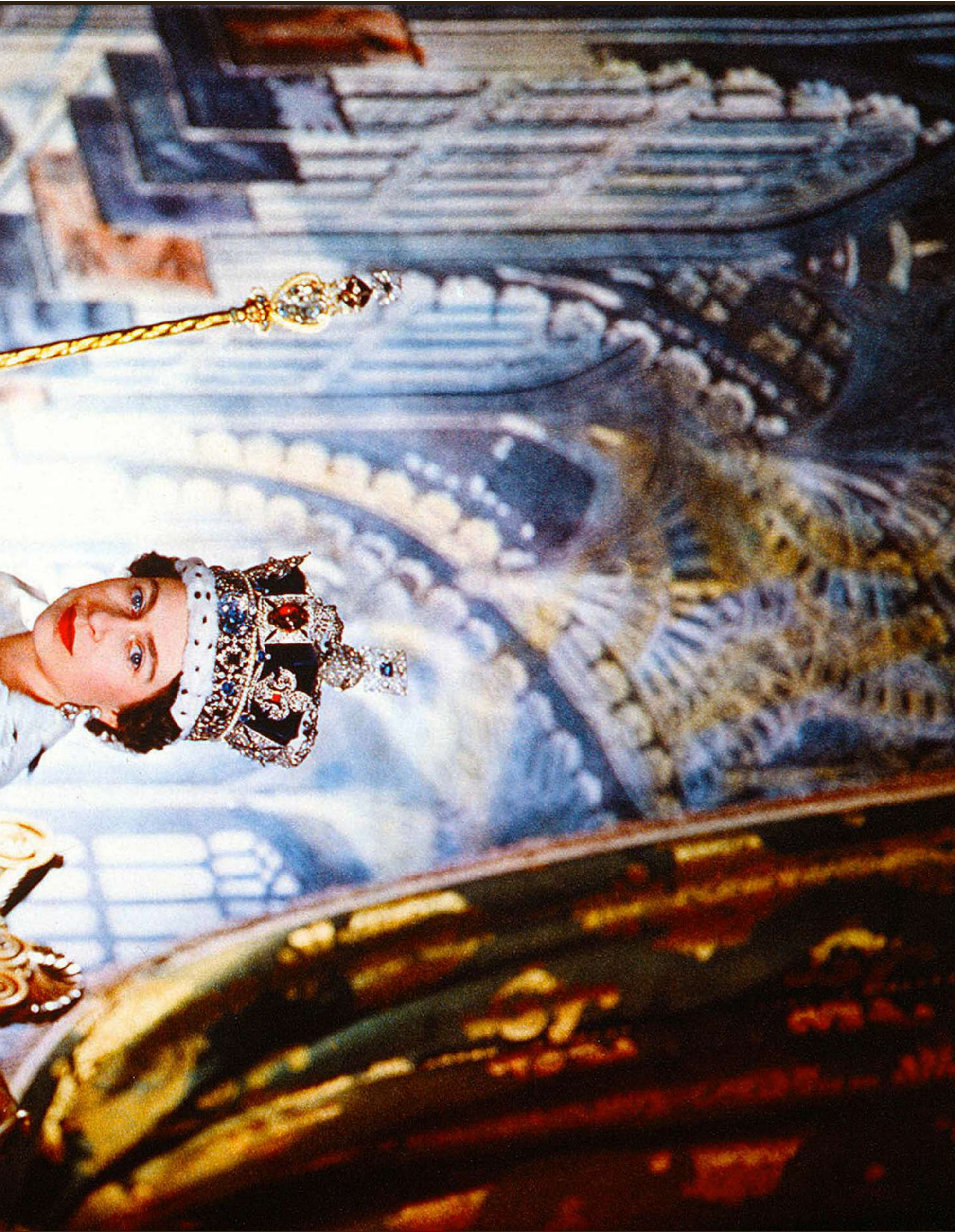
As well as enjoying the occasional glass of vintage wine, the Queen's favourite aperitif was a gin and Dubonnet.





Picture:
CECIL BEATON/
CAMERA PRESS

Our glorious Queen 1926 to 2022



Our glorious Queen

Veteran royal reporter CHARLES RAE spent decades travelling thousands of miles covering the Queen's overseas tours. He tells how her humour, wisdom and star power was always on display

I SPENT more than 20 years on the royal beat and met many members of the Royal Family. And I travelled thousands of miles around the world with Her Majesty the Queen. I also criss-crossed the UK several times as she visited every corner of the country.

It was always a joy to be in her company and it was her bursts of humour that were a joy to witness. They always left me in awe.

But I saw real flashes of kindness too, none more so than when I attended the 150th anniversary of the Journalists' Charity in 2014 with another veteran royal reporter and good chum, Harry Arnold.

Harry at that time had terminal cancer. I knew it would be his last chance to see the Queen as he was dying, and I told a couple of the royal aides just how sick he was. "Any chance the Queen could shake his hand one last time?" I asked.

Later, we all lined up, and sure enough, the Queen came straight up to Harry, held out her hand and shook his. She turned to me and said, "It's quite an achievement being 150 years old," referring to the charity, but I replied, "Yes Ma'am, it's almost as old as Harry here." The Queen broke into a huge grin and said: "Oh, you are so naughty at times," clearly loving the joke. That made Harry's day.

As a postscript, his daughter Natasha told me that a couple of weeks later, Harry was in the hospital, and they did a dementia test. You know, "what day is it?" "what did you have for breakfast?". Obviously he answered them all correctly. Then they asked, "who is currently on the throne?" and Harry said, "Oh, it's Queen Elizabeth II. I had lunch with her last week."

The nurses clearly thought "we have a right one here!" So, Natasha's mum Mary had to bring in the photo to prove that he did dine with her after all.

The Queen's kindness to a dying man will always remain with me.

Being a journalist is a fantastic job. You are right there on the sidelines of history, watching and recording the daily dramas of life. You also end up meeting all sorts of famous people – and infamous people – some of whom are happy to talk to you, and some of whom hate you and will go to any lengths to dodge you.

I have met all sorts – kings, queens, presidents, popes, dictators, revolutionaries and criminals – but only a small handful have made me stand in awe.

Pope John Paul II was one, Nelson Mandela another, but the top triple-AAA celebrity for me must be the Queen.

She was on the throne for 70 amazing years – the second-longest serving monarch in the world and the longest reigning monarch in the UK.

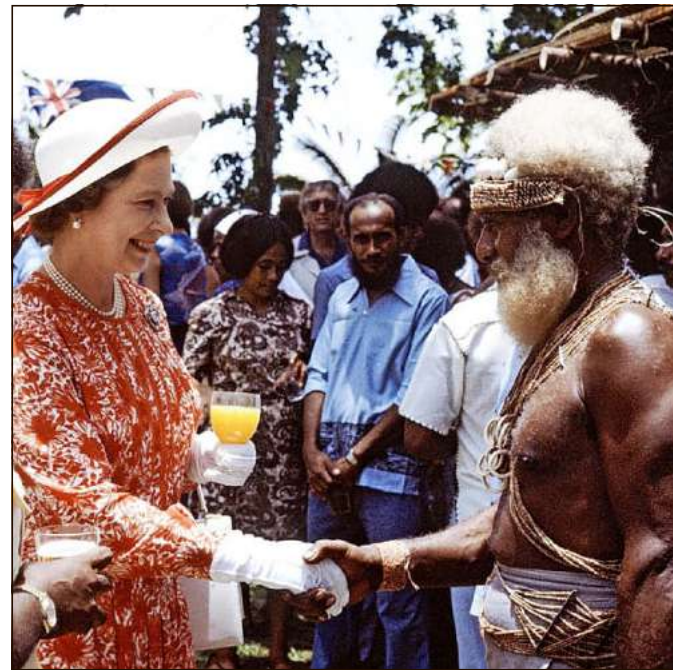
Meeting the Queen had the same effect on everyone. Your legs simply turned to jelly. She had an aura you couldn't explain – a star quality that nobody else possessed.

Here was someone who was beyond A-list – she was the ultimate superstar.

She was small – I often had to lean forward to hear what she said – but her eyes would twinkle, and quite often in mischief.

Perhaps the perfect example of this came during a royal tour of South Africa, where we attended an official welcoming ceremony. The entire press pack – royal reporters and photographers alike – were placed across the roadway, on a large, circular concrete base. Unbeknown to us, we were standing on the roof of an underground bal-

'She was small – I often had to lean forward to hear what she said – but her eyes would twinkle, and quite often in mischief'



cony which housed the ceremonial cannons. So, when they fired the 21-gun salute to honour the Queen, the sound erupted straight under our feet.

Worse was the smoke that enveloped us – a fog so thick that none of us could see in front of us, let alone see the Queen who was across the road. A little later, we went to the official reception. Her Majesty saw us all, came over and said "hello". Then, looking squarely at our faces with her expres-

sion unreadable, she asked, "Did you enjoy the 21-gun salute?"

Unsure what we should say and trying to be diplomatic, we said, "It was a bit special, Ma'am." Her mouth started to twitch. She said, "Yesterday, when they were practising the salute, I was watching it from my room and knew that was going to happen. When they said, that's where the press would be standing, it bought a smile to my face!"

The Queen flashed us a wicked smile. "It

did what I've sometimes wanted to be done over the years... to make you all disappear!" With that, Her Majesty began to chuckle.

However, my first meeting with the Queen did not go down well and I thought the start of my role as a royal correspondent was over before it had begun.

It was November 1990 during a royal tour of Germany and Her Majesty and Prince Philip were going to host a media reception – the first of many royal recep-

1926 to 2022

Pictures: AFP/GETTY; TIM GRAHAM PHOTO LIBRARY/GETTY; MARK LARGE



CARING: Royal correspondents Charles Rae, left, and Harry Arnold, share a joke with the Queen at a Journalists' Charity event in 2014; below left to right, Her Majesty in Bangladesh in 1983, the Solomon Isles in 1982 and in Maori dress in New Zealand in 1995



German reunification, caused significant stress across the whole of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism. It meant that in some money exchange shops in Germany, you would not be able to change up English pounds to German marks.

Meanwhile, a veteran reporter had decided to take me under his wing, as I was a royal reception virgin.

HE EXPLAINED to me that the Queen would approach a group and would begin a conversation with nothing more controversial than "Are you enjoying being in Germany?" or "How are you finding the weather?"

Another favourite used by royals to break the conversation ice with little controversy is: "Don't you think the flowers are beautiful at this time of year?"

You must never, I was warned, start any conversation and we should not initiate one that could be controversial or smack of anything political. The Queen would have either a royal aide with her or someone from the Foreign Office. Their job would be to tell her who was in the group she had reached but more importantly to move Her Majesty swiftly along if the conversation got either boring or controversial.

"Just stick with me. I will show you the ropes and everything will be fine," my so-called mentor promised.

We didn't have to wait long and here it was, my first chance to say something to the

Queen. I hadn't got a clue what I was going to say. Within seconds, there she was, a tiny woman, standing before us with the aide by her side telling the Queen which publications we all worked for.

But as I waited for her to open up the conversation, suddenly my colleague piped up referring to the money crises: "Do you know Ma'am that you cannot change the good old British pound with your head on it in Germany?"

The Queen looked slightly taken aback, looked at him and said: "Oh really."

She had hardly finished pronouncing the words when the aide gently touched the royal elbow and said: "And the next group is over here Ma'am."

And with that the Queen was off and I missed my chance to have any words with her at all, or even to shake the royal hand.

The veteran reporter said, "Well she didn't stay long, did she?"

I looked at him and said: "I thought you said, don't ask anything controversial? You made me miss my chance to speak to the Queen."

Unrepentant, he went on: "Don't worry, it was worth a try. Anyway, there will be other chances to meet her on other tours."

True, there were. I just hoped that she would never remember our first meeting.

In 1999, the Queen made a state visit to South Africa, coinciding with the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting – the CHOGM as it is called.

One of the highlights was her short meeting with former president Nelson Mandela. She had always regarded South

Africa's elder statesman as one of her favourites and someone with whom she could totally relax.

The pair were like giggling teenagers after a private meeting as they walked into a room on the sixth floor of the five-star Sheraton Towers Hotel in Pretoria.

I was one of the lucky few of the travelling Royal Rat Pack to get a position inside the room and could clearly see the pair walking towards us down the corridor.

Her Majesty let out a loud shriek and giggled after Mr Mandela – who was released from prison after 27 years in 1990 – leaned over and whispered something in her ear. The South African anti-apartheid activist, revolutionary and politician served as president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999, giving up the post just a few months before the Queen's visit.

They had become firm friends since he steered the nation back into the Commonwealth after apartheid.

The Queen stopped to chat to some children and Mr Mandela came across to us and said: "Isn't Elizabeth wonderful?"

Puzzled I looked at him and said "Elizabeth?" and he said yes, your Queen. He was the only person I have heard called the Queen by her first name and she always referred to him as Nelson.

The Queen was an icon, a constant for our country and a woman with a quick wit, a steely brain and enviable energy.

Will we ever have another monarch we treasure for so long to steer us through troubles, change and times of great celebration? Sadly, I doubt it.

Our glorious Queen

Her 'strength and stay' whose love kept the Queen smiling

By **Margaret Holder** ROYAL AUTHOR

THERE IS a picture of the Queen we will always remember: the elderly widow, sitting apart because of Covid restrictions, at the funeral of her beloved husband of 73 years. Her sad eyes were full of memories of a long marriage to a man who was, in her own words, her "strength and stay".

She felt his loss deeply. After the deaths of her sister and mother in 2002, he was the only one in the family who really knew her from girlhood to old age.

She had loved Philip since she was 13. They originally met as children in 1934 at a wedding, but in 1939 Princess Elizabeth joined her parents and sister to visit the Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, and was smitten by dashing naval cadet Philip. He was 18 and vibrantly handsome. Marion Crawford, governess to the princesses, recorded in her memoirs that Elizabeth "never took her eyes off him".

He was a penniless émigré, far from the ideal husband envisaged by her parents who may have preferred a suitable English aristocrat. But Elizabeth's heart was set. She persuaded the King and Queen to allow her engagement, announced soon after her 21st birthday in 1947, when she dedicated her lifetime to public service.

Philip had served in the war as a lieutenant. Afterwards, he wrote to Elizabeth: "To have been spared in the war and seen victory, to have been given the chance to rest and to re-adjust myself, to have fallen in love completely and unreservedly, makes all one's personal and even the world's troubles seem small and petty."

Their wedding, in November 1947, was in Churchill's words "a flash of colour on the hard road we have to travel".

But the couple's happy early years were cut dramatically short when the King died in 1952 aged 56.

At the Queen's Coronation in 1953, Philip swore an oath to her to "become your liege man of life and limb, and of earthly worship". It underlined the role required of him.

Philip was the perfect foil to the naturally quiet Elizabeth, brought up since her uncle's abdication in 1936 to embrace her destiny. He was exuberant and dynamic with a lively sense of humour. Apart from their family – Charles, Anne, Andrew and Edward – they shared many interests, particularly their love of the outdoors.

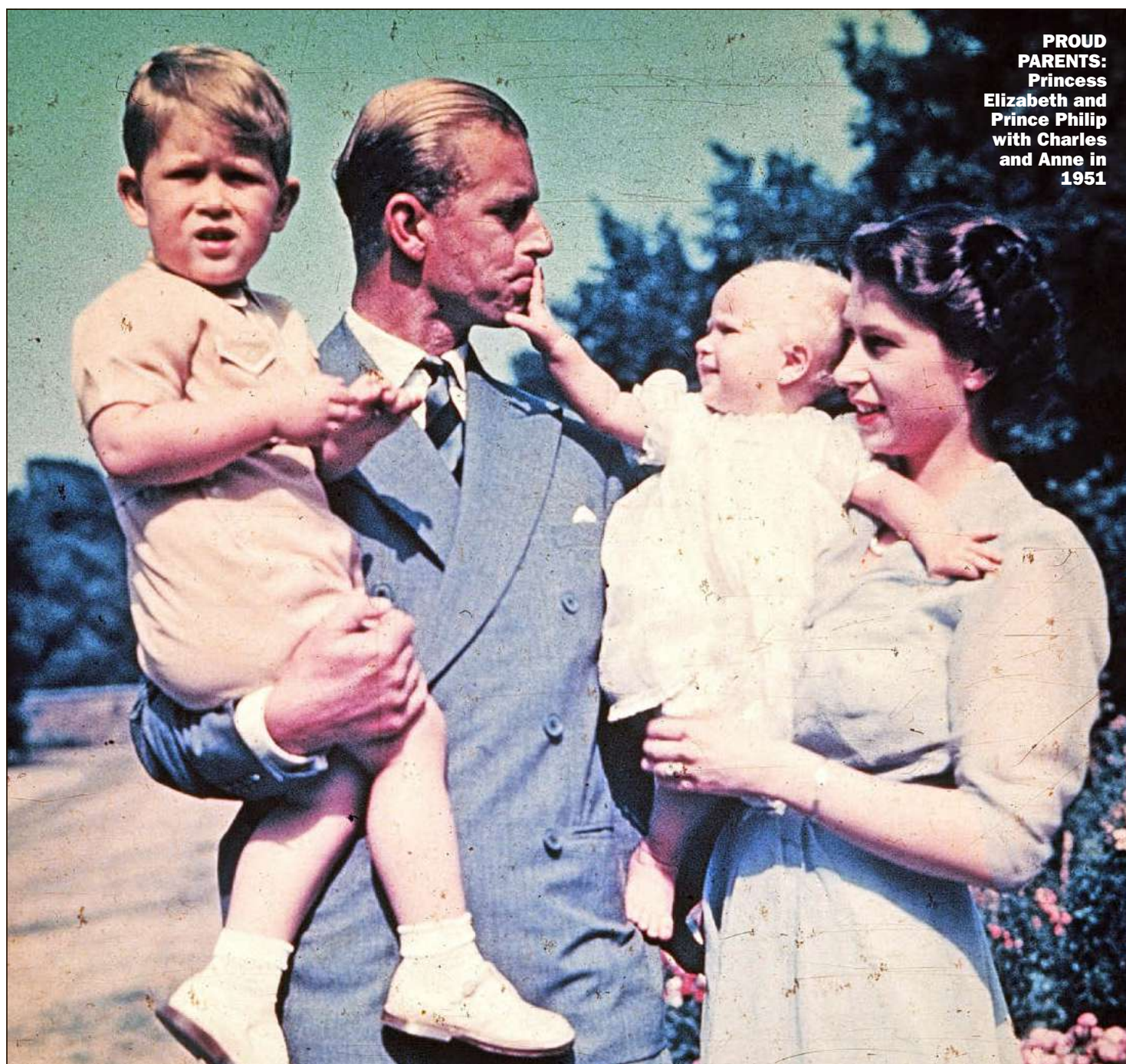
Mostly, they were sweet to each other, with Philip calling his wife by her childhood name Lilibet, and sometimes by his pet name "Sausage". However, there were moments of crossness when Philip, ever the alpha male, felt submerged beneath his wife's solemn, constitutional duties. His role as a consort was not always easy: he had a fight for recognition with the Palace grey men of his day.

Elizabeth understood Philip's occasional restlessness and need to escape the pomp and protocol of court life. In 1956, he travelled on the Royal Yacht Britannia to Australia and Antarctica for several months relishing his spirit of travel and adventure.

Back home, he developed his own interests, most notably launching the successful Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. They were mutually supportive of each other. Philip was protective, often questioning if a plan or project was "good for the Queen".

On their 50th wedding anniversary, Philip said: "I think the main lesson we have learnt is that tolerance is the one essential ingredient in any happy marriage... You can take it from me, the Queen has the quality of tolerance in abundance."

Philip was the only person the Queen could turn to in a family crisis. She missed



PROUD PARENTS:
Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip with Charles and Anne in 1951

1926 to 2022

Pictures: KEYSTONE/GETTY; RX FEATURES; TERRY O'NEILL/ICONIC IMAGES



HAPPY EVER AFTER:
The Queen and Duke of
Edinburgh share a laugh
in 2004, left; the couple,
above, leave
Westminster Abbey after
their wedding in 1947
and, below, their official
portrait from 1992



Our glorious Queen

When he returned in lockdown, their love story came full circle



RELAXED: Queen and Prince Philip at Balmoral with one of the corgis in 1974



DELIGHTED: Studying a 73rd wedding anniversary card made by their grandchildren

FROM PAGE 20

his guidance when problems erupted recently over Prince Andrew and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

Earlier, they had faced the very public breakdowns of the marriages of three of their four children. From a young couple to doting great-grandparents, they weathered many storms. Their love story spanned seven decades that brought huge technological and social changes to which they adapted in their own ways.

The Queen embodied timeless values of duty, service and dignity. Her sense of humour was undoubtedly transferred from her lively husband. We saw her funny side with her James Bond sketch at the 2012 Olympics and, more recently, her Paddington Bear Platinum Jubilee cameo.

The Queen understood that at 95, Philip was ready to retire to the tranquillity of Wood Farm, Sandringham, where he could pursue his love of painting and reading. Rooms were arranged for his comfort after



LOST IN HER GRIEF: Covid regulations forced the Queen to sit apart from her family at Philip's funeral service last year

his hip operation. Friends called to see him frequently, while the Queen continued her role of sovereign, fulfilling her sacred Coronation vow. Covid changed those arrangements. Philip joined the Queen in her safety bubble at Windsor Castle.

In the last year of his life, she had her husband back with her. Their love story came full circle.

Sadly, it was not to last long. Philip's death at 99 in April last year was peaceful, with the Queen at his bedside. Her wreath

at his funeral simply read, "In loving memory, Elizabeth". After his death the Queen's health deteriorated. She seemed frail and small but determined to keep going to the end. He was always in her thoughts.

Last October, she told the opening ceremony of the Scottish Parliament: "I have spoken before of my deep and abiding affection for this wonderful country, and of the many happy memories Prince Philip and I always held of our time here."

A photograph, taken by their daughter-in-law Sophie Wessex in 2003, was released after Philip's death, showing the couple looking relaxed at a beauty spot on the Balmoral estate.

In her last year, despite failing health, the Queen revisited Sandringham and Balmoral, places redolent with memories of her life with Philip.

It was fitting that the last photos of the Queen, shaking hands with new Prime Minister Liz Truss, were taken in the drawing room at Balmoral, where she and Philip would sit together in happier times.

1926 to 2022

Pictures: YUI MOK/GETTY; CHRIS JACKSON/BUCKINGHAM PALACE; ANWAR HUSSEIN/EMPICS



Her Majesty
... in her own
wise words

I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.

Like all the best families, [the Royal Family] have our share of eccentricities, of impetuous and wayward youngsters and of family disagreements.

Grief is the price we pay for love.

It has been women who have breathed gentleness and care into the hard progress of humankind.

I have to be seen to be believed.

I know of no single formula for success. But over the years I have observed that some attributes of leadership are universal and are often about finding ways of encouraging people to combine their efforts, their talents, their insights, their enthusiasm and their inspiration to work together.

It has always been easy to hate and destroy. To build and to cherish is much more difficult.

Let us not take ourselves too seriously. None of us has a monopoly on wisdom.

Work is the rent you pay for the room you occupy on Earth.

Family does not necessarily mean blood relatives but often a description of a community, organisation or nation.

There are long periods when life seems a small, dull round, a petty business with no point, and then suddenly we are caught up in some great event which gives us a glimpse of the solid and durable foundations of our existence.

I cannot lead you into battle. I do not give you laws or administer justice but I can do something else – I can give my heart and my devotion to these old islands and to all the peoples of our brotherhood of nations.

Our glorious Queen

Often said to have a mischievous twinkle in her eye, the Queen was surrounded by pomp and ceremony, but as **BERNY TORRE** recalls, Her Majesty coaxed the monarchy into the modern world little by little



CORONATION

June 2, 1953

A four-year-old Prince Charles looked on as his mother was crowned Queen. Her Coronation at Westminster Abbey was broadcast live on television and saw some 27 million people in the United Kingdom, out of a total population then of 36 million, tune in – many renting or buying a TV for the first time to watch.

Some three million people then lined the route as the 27-year-old monarch and her entourage made their slow procession back to Buckingham Palace, watched by more than 2,000 journalists and 500 photographers from 92 nations on the Coronation route.

The Queen appeared with her family on the balcony of Buckingham Palace still wearing the Imperial State Crown and the Royal Robes to greet the cheering crowds.



WE'LL MEET AGAIN

April 5, 2020

If there was one person who could steady the nation in a time of pandemic it was Her Majesty, the Queen.

In a rare speech echoing the words of the wartime Vera Lynn song, she told the nation “We will meet again” shortly after the first lockdown began.

Marking only her fifth special televised broadcast apart from her Christmas speeches, she said: “Today, once again, many will feel a painful sense of separation from their loved ones.

“We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again.”

VE DAY

May 8, 1945

The Queen described it as “one of the most memorable nights of my life”.

The then 19-year-old Princess Elizabeth and her sister Princess Margaret, just 14, waved to crowds from the Palace balcony with their parents, the King and Queen. But unbeknown to the crowds they sneaked out to be among the joyful mass that evening.

Marking the 75th anniversary of VE Day, she said: “We cheered the king and queen on the balcony and then walked miles through the streets. I remember lines of unknown people linking arms and walking down Whitehall, all of us just swept along on a tide of happiness and relief.”



LONDON OLYMPICS

July 27, 2012

After 60 years on the throne, the Queen stunned the world by making a surprise entrance for the opening of the London 2012 Olympics. She even kept it secret from her family.

More than one billion people were watching worldwide as she took part in a James Bond spoof, which saw 007 himself heading to Buckingham Palace to collect Her Majesty for the celebrations.

In the skit, the Queen was seen sitting at her writing desk before she greeted the secret agent, played by Daniel Craig, with a simple “Hello Mr Bond”, before getting up and the two walked through the Palace’s corridors together.

They then took a helicopter ride over to the Olympic Park where her stunt double did a parachute jump onto the ground below.

Moments later she walked out into the stadium to take her seat with Prince Philip, to deafening cheers.

Proving cooler than Bond himself, Craig later said: “She was great – calmer than me.”

1926 to 2022

moments!

Pictures: GETTY IMAGES/PA WIRE, BUCKINGHAM PALACE VIA REUTERS



PADDINGTON BEAR

June 4, 2022

One of the most memorable moments of the Platinum Jubilee saw Her Majesty delight the nation by appearing in a heart-warming sketch with Paddington Bear.

Viewers were treated to the Queen welcoming the British-adopted Peruvian bear to a tea party at Buckingham Palace, where Paddington was delighted to learn that she shared his love for marmalade sandwiches.

When the beloved bear revealed he kept a ready-made supply of bread and orange preserve staple underneath his hat, the Queen replied "so do I", before opening her iconic handbag and remarking, "I keep mine in here".

In the pre-recorded comedy segment for the opening of the Platinum Party at the Palace, the pair tapped their tea cups to the beat of "We Will Rock You" which led into Queen and Adam Lambert performing the song live.

Following her death, Paddington Bear's official Twitter account paid tribute to her. The post read simply: "Thank you Ma'am, for everything."

JUBILEES

1977, 2002, 2012 and 2022

There have been no greater shows of British unity than during the celebrations of our longest-serving monarch's three major jubilees.

A record 17 million took part in community celebrations during the Platinum Jubilee weekend as the Queen highlighted the "sense of togetherness" in her thank you message to the country.

During the four-day bank holiday there were hopes that the "kindness, joy and kinship" described by the "humbled" monarch would be a long-lasting legacy of the milestone.

She marked her Silver Jubilee in 1977, her Golden Jubilee in 2002 and Diamond Jubilee in 2012 in similar fashion.

In her Golden Jubilee message, the Queen encouraged the nation to not be "nostalgic about the past... we have as much to look forward to with confidence and hope as we have to look back on with pride."

NELSON MANDELA

March 19-25, 1995

The Queen's historic visit to welcome back her beloved South Africa into the Commonwealth was described as one of her most important by Buckingham Palace.

It came less than a year after the nation voted in Nelson Mandela as president and was her first trip back since she was 21 in 1947.

Alongside her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, she debarked from the royal yacht in Cape Town to begin the week-long visit.

Her Majesty gave the late anti-apartheid hero Mandela the Order of Merit, a rare honour bestowed only on one other foreigner – Mother Teresa. President Mandela, who was said to get on very well with Her Majesty, would pay a state visit to the United Kingdom in July 1996.



CHINA VISIT

October 12-18, 1986

The Queen was the first British monarch to visit China, touring the Great Wall and walking amongst the newly excavated army of terracotta warriors in Xi'an.

Her Majesty invited senior members of the Chinese government to a banquet on board the Royal Yacht Britannia.

Ever prepared, she did not bat an eyelid when the ageing Communist leader Deng Xiaoping spat into a spittoon that was placed by his seat.

AULD LANG SYNE

New Year's Eve, 1999

The Queen was the highlight of the 1999 New Year's Eve celebrations. TV fans were delighted as Her Majesty looked unimpressed at prime minister Tony Blair limply offering his left hand to her at the midnight celebration at the opening of the O2 arena.



FIRST WALKABOUT

March & April, 1970

Her Majesty changed royal tours forever as she and Prince Philip performed their first "walkabout" on their visit to Australia and New Zealand in 1970.

Before the Queen started the practice of walking the rope line and greeting members of the public face-to-face, the Royal Family simply drove from destination to destination by car, waving to fans from a distance.

The monarch and Prince Philip broke the tradition when they decided to stroll the streets of Sydney to greet crowds up close and personal, shaking hands along the way.

Princess Anne, the Queen's daughter, who was also on the trip, later told a documentary: "We never shook hands. The theory was that you couldn't shake hands with everybody, so don't start."

Our glorious Queen



NOT AMUSED: Queen with then prime minister Tony Blair and his wife Cherie at celebrations to see in new millennium

Christianity shaped her life... but the Queen embraced those of all religions

IT WAS New Year's Eve 1999. The nation would be led not only by Prime Minister Tony Blair but by the Queen in celebrating the Millennium in the Millennium Dome.

Photos of that night show the Queen alongside husband Prince Philip, with Mr Blair and his wife Cherie, who were belting out Auld Lang Syne.

While doing her duty as requested by the PM, the Queen looked distinctly underwhelmed by this New Labour version of the Millennium. Twelve months later, she used her Christmas Day broadcast to express her own view. She remarked that while the Millennium year with all its projects was

unforgettable, she wanted to reflect on what lay behind the celebrations – that Jesus Christ was born 2,000 years ago and changed the course of history. “This is the true millennium anniversary,” she pointedly said, and added that, “For me, the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provides a framework in which I try to lead my life.”

It was the most explicit expression of her faith the Queen had ever made in a broadcast and drew an enormous postbag of approval, encouraging her to be forthright about her own faith ever since.

That her Christian faith shaped her life was apparent early on.

In 1947, she marked her 21st birthday on a tour of South Africa with a broadcast: “I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be dedicated to your service. God help me to make good my vow.” Millions bought TV

By **Catherine Pepinster**

sets in 1953 to watch the Coronation. Those oaths included a promise to uphold the Protestant religion. And yet despite that, she was crucial in improving relations between the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church.

She met five popes and welcomed John Paul II in 1982 and Benedict XVI in 2010 to Britain. However, these meetings were not just about her personal, tolerant beliefs, they were also pragmatic. During her reign, increasing numbers of her subjects have been Roman Catholics, and indeed Jewish, Muslim, Hindu and Sikh.

Even in 1952 she asked those listening to her first Christmas broadcast after her accession to pray for her as she prepared for her Coronation “whatever your religion may be”. This interest in different religions continued and is evident on

Commonwealth Day at Westminster Abbey, when she approved of other religions being incorporated into the special services.

It was in her relations with her family, over issues to do with marriage and divorce, that the Queen endured the trickiest dilemmas because of her three-in-one complex role: head of the family, head of state and head of the Church of England. She became Queen because of divorce. Her father, George VI, took the throne in 1936, making her heir, when her uncle, Edward VIII, abdicated after the Church and government could not countenance the sovereign marrying the twice divorced Wallis Simpson. After the

Queen ascended the throne, it was the love affair of her own sister, Margaret, with divorcee Group Captain Peter Townsend, that caused heartache. At that time the Church refused remarriage in church. Not only could Margaret not marry Townsend in church but if she married she would have renounced her place in the Royal Family. She eventually decided against the marriage.

In later years, the divorces of her own children caused the Queen much distress, with her famously calling 1992, when Princess Anne divorced, and her sons Charles and Andrew separated from their wives, her “annus horribilis”.

Yet by 2005 the Church had grown more willing to tolerate second marriages, allowing Charles and Camilla to marry.

Like the Duke, the Queen's faith was her strength and stay at the most testing of times, including the Duke's death last year.

One can only wonder at how much she was guided by the Christian teaching on forgiveness, given the ups and downs of her family's life throughout her reign.

In her 2011 Christmas broadcast she said with some feeling: “Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families...”

Her final public comment on her faith came just five weeks before her death when she sent a message to the Lambeth Conference, the gathering of Anglican bishops. “Throughout my life,” she said, “the message and teachings of Christ have been my guide”.

On another occasion, around her 90th birthday, she spoke of her personal Christian faith, saying how grateful she was to God “for His steadfast love”.

Steadfast is the word that most people would also use to describe the Queen: not only in her faith but in 70 remarkable years of service and duty to Britain.

● Catherine Pepinster is the author of *Defenders of the Faith – the British Monarchy, Religion and the Next Coronation*, published by Hodder



1926 to 2022

Pictures: ANWAR HUSSEIN/GETTY IMAGES, FIONA HANSON/REUTERS, JOE GIDDENS/PA



DIVINE GUIDANCE:
Queen leaves St Mary
the Virgin church,
near her Sandringham
estate, Norfolk, in 2020

Elizabeth, defender of the Faith

By **Mark Greene**

LONDON INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY

WHAT made Queen Elizabeth so admired, respected, and loved by so many across the globe – from presidents to stable boys, prime ministers to cleaners? What enabled her to make such a distinctive, warm, effective contribution to nation and Commonwealth across so many decades of rapid change?

The Queen herself gave us the answer. Time and again she told us the source of her ability to carry on through joys and triumphs, setbacks and failures. She put it this way in her 2002 Christmas address:

“I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God!”

Yes, many commentators have noted the importance of her faith but few have explored how it shaped her as a person, as a leader.

So, for example, she signed her Platinum Jubilee letter to us all with the words “Your Servant” but she drew her inspiration for what that meant from the example of Jesus who came, as she reminded us, “to serve and not be served. He restored love and service to the centre of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ.”

And indeed in her Christmas addresses she repeatedly, gently and humbly, encouraged us to serve one another, to look out for our neighbours, to go to the sick and the lonely and the grieving and the hungry.

Way back in 1956, she clarified the kind of country she wanted the UK to become, saying: “I cannot lead you into battle, I do not give you laws or administer justice, but I can do something else. I can give you my heart and my devotion to these old islands and to all the people of our brotherhood of nations. I believe in our qualities and inner strength. I believe that together we can set an example to the world which will encourage upright people everywhere.”

It is an extraordinary vision, not of an imperial Britain ruling the waves, not of a country that would be an economic powerhouse, or lead the world in arts or science, music or tech but rather one that would be a moral example – upright.

Of course, these days the word “upright” is more often applied to pianos than moral character but it is very common in the version of the Bible that the Queen read – the King James. And it speaks of integrity, honesty and justice. Indeed, her words from 1961 seem so appropriate for our own times: “In difficult times we may be tempted to find excuses for self-indulgence and to wash our hands of responsibility. Christmas stands for the opposite... we need to go out and look for opportunities to help those less fortunate than

ourselves, even if that service demands sacrifice.” Still, Elizabeth II did not just have a vision for the UK but also for the Commonwealth. When she came to the throne the Commonwealth consisted of eight nations, today it has 54 members.

But how is it that the Queen managed to turn nations that Britain ruled and exploited for decades into a warm, cooperative, purposeful fellowship? The short answer is through the Queen’s determination, warmth and relational skills.

She had seen, as she put it, “the last great phase of the transformation of the Empire into the Commonwealth and the transformation of the Crown from an emblem of dominion into a symbol of free and voluntary association. In all history it has no precedent”.

This was reconciliation in action. This was reconciliation achieved. Again, that yearning for reconciliation was rooted in her faith. Here she is in 2014: “For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role-model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing.”

And we saw this yearning for reconciliation during the years of violence in Northern Ireland. Her 1976 wish was that “reconciliation would be wherever it is

needed”. We saw it in the smiling warmth with which she was able to shake the hands of the former leaders of the Provisional IRA, despite the fact that the IRA were responsible for the death of her friend, and relative Earl Mountbatten.

Elizabeth lived her faith. And it wasn’t just a Sunday faith, it was a Monday to Sunday faith.

And it wasn’t just a faith that called her to serve but a faith that was marked by the joy she found in Jesus, in the beauty of his world, and the pleasures and responsibilities of family.

Elizabeth was the most remarkable sovereign but she was also granny and mummy and friend, and wife who when Philip died was, we are told, busy ensuring everyone else was alright.

Jesus said that he came that we might have life and have it abundantly. Elizabeth gave us more than a glimpse of what a life well lived looks like – generous, encouraging, persevering, selfless.

She chose to live her life as a servant, and she was both ours and Jesus’s. I have no doubt that among the many things he might have said to her as he met her face to face, would be: “Well done good and faithful servant.”

May it be the same for us all.

● Mark Greene is the author of *The Servant Queen and the King She Serves*, the Queen’s Way and the forthcoming *Queen Elizabeth II, A Life of Grace*.

Our glorious Queen

All the Monarch's men

THE QUEEN never had a Prime Minister quite like her first, Winston Churchill. A romantic, moved to tears by great events, he was in love with her from the moment he stood on the tarmac in 1952 at Northolt Airport, when she flew home from Kenya having succeeded her father.

George VI had died unexpectedly during the night at Sandringham House while his elder daughter was taking his place on the first of many Commonwealth tours.

Churchill bowed deeply as the new ruler stepped from the aircraft, clad in funereal black – flown out specially to Rome where the flight had stopped as she and Prince Philip returned to begin her reign.

Churchill was enraptured by the notion that a second Elizabethan Age had begun and saw his role as the new Queen's guide and mentor.

Queen Victoria – who had gained the throne at just 18 – had developed a close relationship with her first Prime Minister, the charming Whig aristocrat Lord Melbourne, who adopted a paternal attitude to the young monarch.

Elizabeth, already 25 and married, had no need of a father figure but respected Churchill, having known him as the inspiring wartime leader. When eventually, in 1955, he decided to resign, the Queen paid him the unheard-of compliment of going to dinner at Number 10 Downing Street with Prince Philip. Churchill, in ceremonial silk knee breeches, bowed at the famous front door with his wife Lady Clementine at his side.

The Queen knew Churchill's successor, Anthony Eden, so well that she almost forgot to ask him to be Prime Minister. They had been discussing horse racing, a joint interest, so deeply he had to prompt her to ask him if he could form a government – which he then said he could.

When he resigned citing ill-health in 1957, after the humiliating debacle of the Suez adventure, Harold Macmillan slipped seamlessly into the role of the First Lord of the Treasury. He may have been the grandson of a Scots crofter but "Super Mac" as cartoonists depicted him, was as familiar with the grouse moors as the Royal Family.

Sir Alec Douglas-Home took over from Macmillan in 1963 at the end of a tumultuous year of political scandal, culminating in the Profumo Affair. He had renounced his peerage as 14th Earl of Home in order to take a Commons seat and become the Queen's fourth Prime Minister.

As a fellow landowner with an estate in the Scottish Borders, Sir Alec was on easy terms with the monarch, whose family he knew.

Harold Wilson was the Queen's first Labour Prime Minister. Amazingly, they got on famously well. Wilson joined in all the family

By **Michael Cole**

FORMER BBC ROYAL CORRESPONDENT

activities at Balmoral and was happy to help the Queen with the washing up after picnics.

They were on such friendly terms that there was speculation the Duke of Edinburgh was pro-Labour, believing it to be the most progressive party. The Queen, of course, was strictly neutral, having been instructed by her father in Britain's unwritten constitution, which stipulates that the monarch reigns but does not rule. That's Parliament's job.

Edward Heath, who surprisingly beat Wilson in June, 1970, was stiff and awkward with his monarch – but then he was with most people.

Jim Callaghan, who took over in 1976 after Wilson's return and then sudden resignation, was at ease with the monarch but could not survive the 1978/79 "Winter of Discontent" which ushered in Margaret Thatcher.

Born just six months before the Queen, the two women got on much better than gossip-mongers may have suggested. Certainly, no one ever dropped a deeper curtsy to the monarch than Mrs Thatcher. There

were, nevertheless, tensions when the US invaded the island of Grenada, one of the Queen's overseas realms. Angry that President Reagan had kept the invasion secret from Mrs Thatcher,

she summoned the premier from a Cabinet meeting to the Palace to explain why our most important ally had kept the Prime Minister in the dark. The Queen later made it a point to reopen parliament on Grenada in 1985.

Thatcher's 1990 successor John Major got on well with the Queen and valued her judgment at their Tuesday night audiences.

But 1997's New Labour Tony Blair is thought to have annoyed Buckingham Palace by grandstanding when Princess Diana was killed in Paris that year. Yet her Majesty maintained her calm, even when required by Alastair Campbell, Blair's adviser, to say she spoke "as a grandmother" in her television tribute to the Princess.

Blair's 2007 successor Gordon Brown was well liked by the Queen.

But 2010 Tory David Cameron committed the unforgivable error of revealing that the monarch "purred" down the phone to him when the Scottish independence referendum resulted in a vote to maintain the union that she had worked so hard to protect.

Theresa May and Boris Johnson were gone too soon for the royal relationship to mature. But the monarch will have been gratified to have been well enough to see out Boris Johnson on Tuesday and welcome Liz Truss as his successor, after a lifetime in which she put her duty and time-tested judgment before any personal feelings in this most delicate of relationships.



ANTHONY EDEN: Shared a love of horseracing



HAROLD MACMILLAN: Dogged by scandal



DOUGLAS-HOME: Borders friend of the family



HAROLD WILSON: Helped the Queen wash up



EDWARD HEATH: Stiff and awkward character



JIM CALLAGHAN: Sunk by Winter of Discontent

1926 to 2022

...and three women

Picture: KEYSTONE-FRANCE/GETTY IMAGES



WINSTON CHURCHILL: Elizabeth's first PM. He saw himself as her mentor in beginning a second 'Eliabethan Era' of hope



LIZ TRUSS: Final act of welcome last week



BORIS JOHNSON: Recognised as PM in 2019



THERESA MAY: Brief encounter in difficult days



DAVID CAMERON: Indiscreet on IndyRef vote



MARGARET THATCHER: Deep curtsies



JOHN MAJOR: Valued their meetings



TONY BLAIR: Friction over Diana's death



GORDON BROWN: Well-liked in his brief term

Our glorious Queen

How elusive Ascot victory crowned a passion for racing

IT IS THE final Classic race of the flat season and one Her Majesty always enjoyed. The St Leger at Doncaster, a race she won in 1977, would have been run yesterday. But with all racing suspended, it will be run today – without the sport's greatest supporter watching.

The Queen was not just obsessed with racing. Everyone who met her in that context says the same thing: that she was one of the most knowledgeable people about the sport. She did not just have an encyclopaedic knowledge of racing; she was one of the world's leading experts on breeding, the part-science, part-intuition alchemy behind every new crop of racehorses.

One book tells of the 12-year-old Princess Elizabeth pointing out to the royal bloodstock adviser he was wrong about the breeding of a mare at the royal stud.

Racing and breeding were an escape for the Queen. It was perhaps the only field in which she was involved in which she was not the centre of attention but almost a bystander, with the horses the true stars.

Her purple, gold braid and scarlet colours – inherited from her father George VI and her great-grandfather King Edward VII – won over 1,800 races. They included 36 victories last year – more than in any season other than when she was champion owner, in 1954 and 1957.

The love of racing was bred into her.

By **Stephen Pollard**

George VI had a string of horses, and the then Princess Elizabeth started riding as a three-year-old. There are pictures of her as a young woman cantering on the track at Ascot on raceday morning, having ridden to the course from Windsor Castle.

The story is told that when the Queen went to see her father's brilliant 1942 Fillies Triple Crown winner (the 1,000 Guineas, the Oaks and the St Leger) Sun Chariot, she was so taken with the mare's soft, satin skin she refused to wash her hands for two days.

When her father died, she took over his racehorses and breeding operation. One horse, Feola, had been bought in 1934 when Elizabeth was just eight. Feola's offspring remained with the Queen throughout her reign; the two-year-old Constitution, the latest (seventh generation) descendant of Feola, ran this season.

Feola's role was more than mere longevity. Her daughter Hypericum won the 1,000 Guineas in 1946 for George VI. And fittingly, her grand-daughter Highclere won the race in 1974 for the Queen.

Her Majesty won every classic – except the Derby. And she did not buy her way to success; all her horses were home bred, foaled at the Royal Stud in Sandringham.

Her first classic came in 1957 when Lester Piggott rode Carrozza to victory

in the Oaks, with the 2,000 Guineas coming the next year thanks to Pall Mall's 20/1 success.

Dunfermline's Oaks and St Leger wins were a Hollywood-style ending. It was 1977, the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Ridden by Willie Carson, she won the Oaks in June staying on strongly and was targeted at the St Leger. Having failed to win her prep race she started at 10/1 but won a nip and tuck battle. Two classics in one season was the stuff of dreams, let alone in her celebratory year.

But more than any other race, the Queen wanted to win the Ascot Gold Cup. She adored Royal Ascot almost as much as the crowd there adored her. No matter how many darts she threw at it, however, none stuck – until 2013 and Estimate.

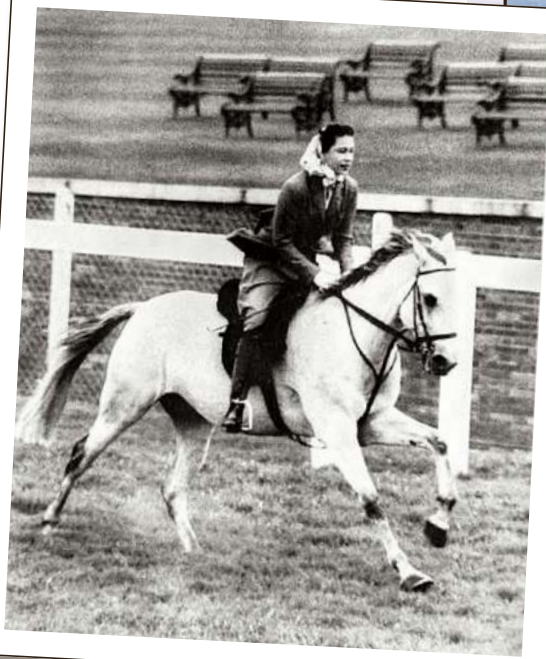
The filly came into the race as an obvious winner, having won a key trial. But Gold Cup disappointment had been the norm for the Queen. Not this time. Ridden by Ryan Moore, she took the lead with one furlong left of the stamina-sapping two-and-a-half mile race and held on in a pulsating finish to win by a neck. The pictures of the Queen watching the race went round the world, showing the pure joy on her face as she cheered Estimate on and became the first reigning monarch to win the race.

It made for a unique ceremony since traditionally the Queen presented the Gold Cup to the winning owner. Since she could not present it to herself, Prince Andrew stepped in and handed it to his mother.

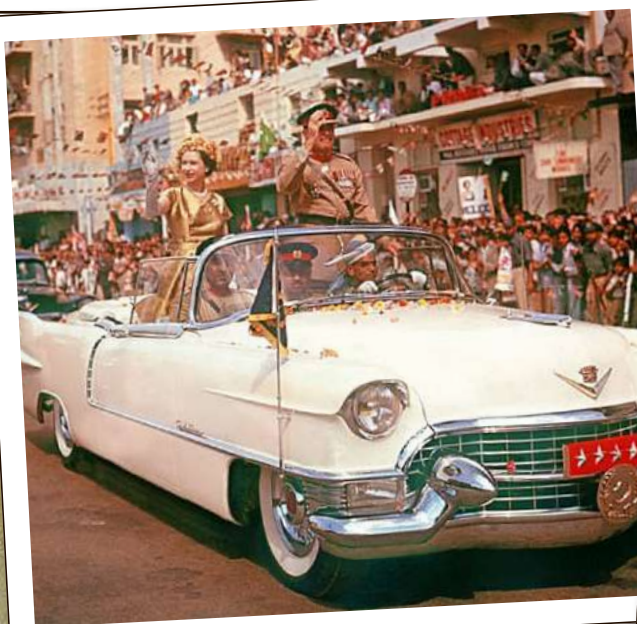
Racing was the Queen's passion and her escape, but no other sport has been fortunate enough to have had such a wonderful, knowledgeable, committed patron.



LIFETIME'S AMBITION: Queen with her horse Estimate, left, after it won the 2013 Ascot Gold Cup; above, with the elusive trophy; right, riding the course at Ascot in 1961



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ON TOUR: Queen and Philip, left, in Solomon Islands in 1982; Pakistan in 1961, above; lunch in France in 1992, right; below, Dublin Castle in 2011

Pictures: CHRIS JACKSON, AFP, ANWAR HUSSEIN, HULTON ARCHIVE, TIM GRAHAM PICTURE LIBRARY/GETTY, STEVE PARSONS, ARTHUR EDWARDS/PA



From rats to slugs... and all with a smile

THE QUEEN was not the slightest bit grand. Her job was grand, but she had a natural modesty that meant the Crown never went to her head.

She took great pride in performing her unique role perfectly and was only ever cross if she was late simply because she knew it would inconvenience those waiting to see her.

So, overseas tours ran on "Queen's time", precisely. If the little blue book that Buckingham Palace published to detail every engagement said that at one o'clock the Queen would be sitting down to lunch on board the Royal Yacht as Britannia entered Bahamian waters with four of her Commonwealth prime ministers, then at 1pm, the monarch and four politicians would sit down as Nassau came in sight and the first course would be placed quietly before them.

When 11 government heads went on an unscheduled booze cruise around the islands and arrived very late at the official banquet, the Queen took charge, bossing the group photograph so that dinner would not be spoiled. She was always sensitive to the feelings of her staff and did not wish the chefs to be disappointed by their hard work being spoiled.

It was not for me to feel proud of the Queen, but I often was, she looked so alone when she stood in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in her silver gown, Garter sash and tiara to make an historic speech to the unsmiling Communist hierarchy. They were inscrutable and then she was

By **Michael Cole**
FORMER BBC ROYAL CORRESPONDENT

required to sit down to enjoy a dinner including sea slug. In Belize, she was not daunted by having to eat a jungle rodent at the official banquet, which prompted the headline: "Queen eats rat". And she did, with a smile.

The Queen had quite remarkable patience. When she opened a cement works in Barbados, a young man in a suit spent 40 minutes explaining with slides how cement is made. The Queen stood perfectly still on her size 4 feet seemingly fascinated by his presentation. Eventually he stopped and people like me started to think about a drink before lunch when the young man said: "And then there is the other way to make cement." The Queen continued to pay rapt attention.

She liked to see and hear new things. In Belize she flew in a small aircraft over the jungle, spotting all the cannabis plantations growing "Belize Breeze", high grade hemp. "Fascinating, isn't it?" said the Queen when I spoke to her on Britannia afterwards.

She had a great sense of humour. She never minded a joke on herself. When a colleague of mine, Keith Graves, was introduced to her as "the man from the BBC", she replied, "I usually watch ITN" to which Keith replied, "I didn't come here to be insulted". The Queen was the first to join in the laughter. I will miss her.



Our glorious Queen 1926 to 2022



'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong'